

FERS GOES DX

Volume 12

Issue 123

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The former Laser ship MV Communicator a few years ago in the port of Lisbon, Portugal. Photo: Stuart Dobson.

IN THIS MAY/JUNE EDITION:

- * *New Yugoslavian Offshore project*
- * *Artiom's Russian Pirate News*
- * *In-depth feature: Virgin 1215, the Radio Revolution?*
- * *Exclusive Peter Moore Interview*
and.....much, much more !!!

FRS GOES DX

COLOPHON

'FRS GOES DX' is a bi-monthly magazine which informs about radio in general and **Free Radio** in particular. It's published by FRS-Holland, an independent short wave free radio station.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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ADVERTISING

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For full or half page adverts please contact the editor.

MAILING ADDRESS

All correspondence should be sent to:
P.O.Box 2727, 6049 ZG HERTEN, the Netherlands. **Do NOT use the address on the cover!!**

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Pirate Chat, Free DX, Pirate Pages, Freewave, Pirate Connection and the Radio Tape.

Next edition is going to be published:
Friday July 30th

Deadline for contributions:
Friday July 23rd

This edition is circulated to readers in Europe, the U.S.A. and New Zealand.

EDITORIAL

Welcome in another bumper edition. As from this issue onwards, **volume 12** takes effect!! Perhaps some of you haven't realized that this magazine already exists since the summer of 1982. Is there anybody still having issue 1? Must be a collector's item by now though it cannot in any way be compared with the current content and lay-out! It was more of a newssheet rather than a real magazine.

We do strive to achieve further improvements. A number of ideas are waiting to be put into practice. That will happen as soon as a new computer/printer is available to us. Then there will also be many more possibilities as far as letter fonts and working in graphic mode are concerned.

Important to mention is that- as we promised already in the December 1992 edition- we won't take a summer break. The next edition will be out late July/ early August. However: edition 124 won't contain as many pages as the first three editions of 1993. Reason is twofold: one reason is I will be moving to a new house in July. A second and perhaps more understandable reason is that each of the issues 121- 123 contained no less than 8 pages extra. The subscription price is based on 24 A4 pages (comparable with 48 A5 pages when the mag was still in its old format). The extra pages mean a lot of extra costs for us, therefore we have to be a bit careful as far as the finances are concerned!!

Soon brandnew magazine promos will be aired via several colleague SW stations and hopefully that will bring some more members...

As far as **radio** is concerned a number of interesting things have happened in the past two months. Just think of the new offshore station Radio Boat, backed by the European Commission (!). Virgin 1215 took to the air and there's also news about Caroline. Things on our beloved SW bands remain interesting. Every now and then something interesting happens. One final remark: in case you're going on holidays, your stories/ news about any radio station is more than welcome. That's all, 73's and stay tuned!!

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FRS NEWSCORNER

ISSUE 123

Believe me: the thought of finishing off this very issue was already enough to get a spontaneous headache... What else can be expected when you must work in a room where temperatures are easily in excess of 40 degrees! But we did it. In the name of free radio. Sounds good. In the name of free radio. Let's be more serious and tell you what is or what isn't in this Summer 1993 edition. We got a postcard from Derek Taylor but no medium wave pirate news. No problem because it took some time to decide which info had to be put aside for the next issue. In most cases we use the 'golden' rule that up-to-date features take priority. That means that the special feature about the German Shortwave pirates in the 1975-1978 period has been once again dropped. When committing these words to paper, I must honestly admit I'm feeling a bit ashamed. A German gentleman called Rainer Palma compiled this fantastic, exiting in-depth feature and I realize it was some 5 or 6 months ago when I approached him asking his permission to publish this story. Rainer is the first person knowing that this has nothing to do with quality! It's just that we are limited to 32 pages and it is clear by now that there's only space for two serious (and longer) special features. This time we had no other choice than including a Virgin 1215 feature. In addition we also feature a lengthy Peter Moore interview. Both are topical subjects in contrast with Rainer's story. But I can assure you that early August the complete story will be published in issue 124!! In fact we already finished it by translating it from German into English. And some nice photos are included as well.

No US free radio news as we didn't receive anything from Andrew. But I'm sure next time he will be around. Artion's column reached us just in time and hopefully the problems with the post are now definitely over... Two columns, News from around the World and FRS Satellite Telex are merged to one column. Only a temporary solution! Made in Holland & Joop ter Zee are back.

And the offshore column is a very comprehensive one this time.

Good 'pulp' for any offshore freak. And last but not least there's a high number of pages devoted to short wave. Last but not least: more than 2 pages with your mail. Thanks to each and everyone who've been contributing.

FRSH ACTIVITIES

Since the last issue was published, two broadcasts were aired. We planned a broadcast on the 3rd Sun in March (20th) but the tapes didn't arrive in time on the location. And so a new date was set: April 18th. Between 12.00- 14.20 CEST FRSH was on air with the first 1993 transmission. Much to our surprise some 35 letters reached us. Our first thought was that conditions that Sunday were appalling but nothing was further from the truth. Conditions were perfectly alright, only: there was some long skip creating a few dead zones. The funny thing about the mail was two categories of people 'ruled' the letters: new listeners writing in for the very first time and a number of senior FRSH listeners. In between the (very loyal) ones who always write following a broadcast. In April we were relayed in contrast with May when a lengthy 4 hour Sunday was planned with our own transmitting equipment on the 23rd, a 4th Sunday and not the usual 3rd one (time pressure). In particular the latter transmission needs a mention as it was- in my personal view- one of the best FRS-Holland 'normal' trms of the past few years. The weeks preceding the broadcast, a lot of preparations were carried out and this surely had the desired effect: a varied programming with in each show fixed ingredients such as letters, radio info, a competition and of course music. What we strive for is to sound as a station rather than a number of separate pxs. And

that's something which turned out well. I can assure you that you've been missing something good when not tuning our way May 23rd. For this broadcast we choose a frequency of 6400 kHz. All preparations justified a well considered choice and we just didn't want to clash with any other station within the 48 mb range. 41 mb could cause serious long skip, so 6400 was a perfect solution. Two weeks before the broadcast we informed Radio Atlantis in the UK and asked them to keep the frequency free for us. Atlantis behaved as gentlemen! Highly appreciated. On 6400 a very strong signal was to be heard with reports from Italy and Lithuania. The latter indicates the quality of the signal as we were received in the afternoon! Letters and a selection of reception reports will be handled in issue 124.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

July 3rd we will be on 48 metres with a special nighttime programming between 22.30- 01.00 UTC. A frequency within the 6200- 6300 kHz range will be used. Late June or in the course of July there will be a 76 mb transmission, also on a Saturday night. August will also see one or two nighttime transmissions, most probably on 48 metres. So keep an eye on 76/48 metres in the coming two months on a late Sat evening/early Sun morning...

NEW GERMAN POSTAL CODES

Yes, indeed: as from July 1st new postal codes take effect. So a request to our German readership: please inform us as soon as possible about your new code. The well-known Wuppertal address will be getting this brandnew code: 42373. Take care, the editor.□

FRS SALES PRODUCTIONS SUMMER OFFERS

1) The official start of VIRGIN 1215. Three hours of recordings starting at approx. 12.10pm on April 30th. Perfect audio quality as it is a direct copy from satellite.

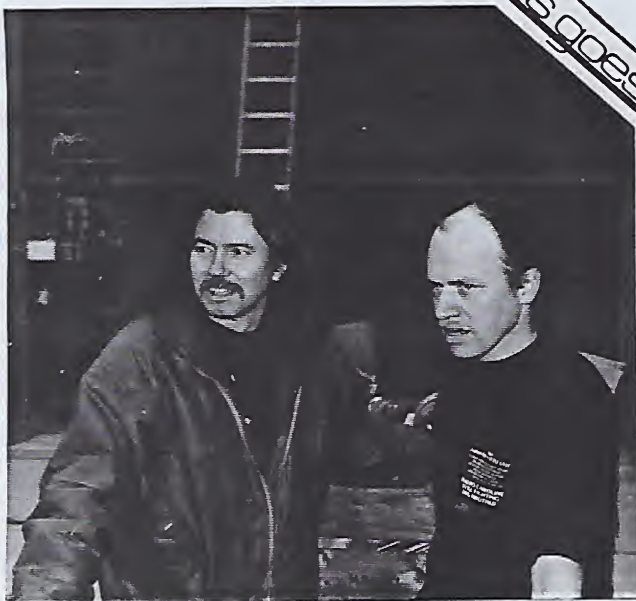
On two C-9's. Price: DM 20.00/ £ 7.99/ f 20.-

2) RADIO 538 on Ascension Day with a Listener's All Time Top 100. The final part between 15.10- 17.30 and 18.00- 18.50 CEST. Great radio, fantastic music. On two C-90's in perfect audio (from satellite). Price: DM 20.00/ £ 7.99

FRS Newscorner

PETER MOORE INTERVIEW

LAST EDITION WE UNFORTUNATELY FAILED TO PUBLISH THE PETER MOORE INTERVIEW. IN THE MEAN TIME THE TAPE WITH THE INTERVIEW ARRIVED AT THE FRSDDX QTH. THE WHOLE INTERVIEW HAD TO BE TRANSCRIBED FROM TAPE TO PAPER, CERTAINLY NOT VERBRUGGEN'S MOST FAVOURITE JOB.... LOCATION: THE LOUNGE OF A HOTEL IN HAARLEM, A CITY NEAR THE NORTHEAST COAST SOME 20 KILOMETRES WEST OF THE DUTCH CAPITAL AMSTERDAM. DATE: SATURDAY MARCH 29TH 1993. TIME: 15.00 H LOCAL TIME. INTERVIEWEE: PETER MOORE. HE'S NOT THE CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF SOMEBODY WHO'S STATION-MANAGER OF A RADIO STATION. BUT KEEPING IN MIND RADIO CAROLINE IS NOT THE EXAMPLE OF AN ORDINARY RADIO STATION, IT'S PERHAPS EASIER TO UNDERSTAND THAT PETER MOORE DOESN'T HAVE THE LOOK OF WHAT MOST PEOPLE HAVE IN MIND WHEN THINKING OF A MANAGER... PETER MOORE: FAIRLY SMALL WITH A TRENDY PONYTAIL, A PERSON WHO COMES UP AS A VERY FRIENDLY AND WILLING MAN. WHEN PETER ASKED HIM FOR THE INTERVIEW THAT DAY, THE CAROLINE MAN DIDN'T DOUBT FOR EVEN A SECOND. AND DURING THE INTERVIEW HE TOOK ALL THE TIME TO ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS. PETER AND PETER TALKING ABOUT CAROLINE'S PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE.



February 1993: Peter Moore together with Dutch HDTP officer Mart Roumen

Peter V.: What is your personal impression of this annual event in Haarlem?

Peter Moore: As you will imagine I get to go to quite a lot of these events but I think that the ones organised in Holland are better attended, better organised and that the people who come to the events are asking more intelligent questions and generally seem interested and wish to help. In other countries people seem to come along because they have an interest but not to the degree they want to become deeply involved or asking any questions. For them it's just a day out.

Peter V.: What many people do not know is when your involvement with Radio Caroline began. How long is that ago?

Peter Moore: (laughing) 1967. I wasn't there all the time of course! As with many people I became interested in radio because of Radio Caroline and in the 1970s when the station was off the air I did what I'm sure you may well have done as well: starting a pirate radio station. One of my friends who was more technically able than me got a job on the Mi Amigo and came back and invited me to come and see the ship because he knew I was interested. That was it. From that time I never got away from it.

Peter V.: Back to the present situation. A few weeks ago, Fri February 19th, something very special happened because the Caroline equipment which was confiscated back in August 1989, was returned to the station. Can you tell what happened that day in Holland?

Peter Moore: It was a very interesting day though. We were negotiating to get the equipment back since a year ago today because it was a year ago to this day that I came to last year's meeting and met Mart Roumen who's the Dutch police officer (in fact not a police but HDTP officer at the Investigation Service Clandestine Stations-PV) who was in charge when the Ross was raided. And at that meeting he said there was a possibility that he could help us not by returning the equipment but by selling it and letting us have the proceeds of the sale. Various through the year we spoke until it was agreed they would give the equipment back. And so we hired a large truck in England and drove all the way to Rotterdam and loaded 4 tons of material on 12 pallets, lots of material! The only problem we thought we may have was that...Mart Roumen explained that...well, he had no argument any longer with us. He knew the English would not be very happy he was giving the equipment back and he was concerned that we would have trouble getting back into England although border control should have stopped. I don't think anyone actual-

ly told the English. So we were worried getting into England and have the equipment taken away from us again. So we tried a little trick and came to England on a different boat. The driver of the truck is our engineer but he's an Australian and we had a lady with us who's a New Zealander and they were able to pretend they didn't know the procedures and made a big fuss! Eventually the customs let us through just to get us out of the way. We put everything back that night on to the Ross Revenge on all the original positions it was in before it was taken away.

Peter V.: Is it true that a Dutchman called Herbert Visser was also involved in those negotiations between Mr. Roumen and the Caroline organisation?

Peter Moore: Oh, that's quite true. Herbie seems to be a good friend of Mart Roumen. I think Mart probably arrested him a number of times (the latter is said with a smile on his face). Yes, he was able to help me because I obviously can't speak Dutch. So Herbie negotiated on my behalf and sometimes when Mr. Roumen wasn't easy to contact I could always put messages via Herbie. He made contact for me and then replied to me in England. So I could understand what was being done.

Peter V.: So obviously Herbert did a good job for Caroline!

RADIO CAROLINE

FRS Feature

Peter Moore: Herbie is a fine chap. Sometimes his enthusiasm is

caroline 558

more than I can cope with but that's not a criticism really.

Peter V.: Talking of equipment, was by the way all of it returned?

Peter Moore: Yes, I believe we got everything back and very little was damaged. The only thing we haven't got back is the ship's logbook, an info book, which they wish to retain for their own purposes but we don't really need that. Besides from that everything which was taken was returned.

Peter V.: I heard that also some of the Radio 819 equipment was returned to England, is that true?

Peter Moore: Well, there were 12 pallets of material for which there was an inventory detailing every single piece of equipment we got back. But there was one more pallet we were given and we were not entirely sure what that material was. It was offered to us and so we accepted it (use your own imagination what was on this pallet-PV).

Peter V.: So, there's no problem that Radio 819 want to get their equipment back. In actual fact there's no Radio 819 organisation anymore?

Peter Moore: No, I think the Dutch authorities take the view that everything removed from the ship was properly ship's store or ship's cargo if you understand and that it must be put back on the radio ship. So all the material they took belongs to the owners of the radio ship specifically rather than any organisation who rented airtime on the ship.

Peter V.: Now talking about Caroline's future. After the Ross came in in Dover, you've been on FM, SW & satellite. Are there any new plans for a special event licence because those two previous licences were successful, isn't it?

Peter Moore: Yeah, the first licence was extremely successful. Unfortunately the problem we had with the 2nd licence was that the intention was to take the ship to Chatham. People probably won't know, there's the River Medway which rounds off the River Thames near the sea. There's a large dockyard where the Royal British navy built and kept all their ships. But they don't do that anymore, at least not there. And so the dockyard is a museum but it still has its facilities such as dry-docks and covered yards. It was thought we could go there because we were planning to broadcast from Chatham dockyard over August (1992-PV) and the ship could be a tourist attraction. August 14th & 19th are significant dates for us. Unfortunately it proved impossible to move the ship, so the only way we could make our transmissions was via a complicated link from Dover to a transmitter at Chatham. That didn't have the impact that we would have been achieving if the ship was in Chatham. So the second event was not a success. The first one was a very great success.

Peter V.: It seems that Caroline's current SW broadcasts are well-listened to. Is that really the case and can you tell a bit more about the SW transmissions from Ireland.

Peter Moore: As you may know, there's a situation in Ireland about SW which is not clear. Basically there's no law to cover the activities, so various stations do broadcast on SW. Our tx is the one which I think was briefly used for a station called Radio Harmony which didn't work out too well. But currently we use 6295. We moved from 6305 because there seemed to be continuous interferences on that channel. And we're now up to about the maximum power which the tx can provide which is

1.2 kW. There is some thought of buying another tx and diplex them together. What we thought we might do instead is have a fresh tx in the 75 mb although we don't know precisely which frequency yet, in the hope that will maintain reception for periods of time when the 6295 goes off to New Zealand or where ever the signal is tend to go on SW. We really only want to do weekends because we think 7 days a week 24 hours a day might cause the authorities become to interested in us. Radio Fax was another station broadcasting from Ireland and they ended up on 3 frequencies continuously and got to the stage where the Irish government asked them to close down. But in our situation we haven't been approached at all and we have been operating for 6 months now.

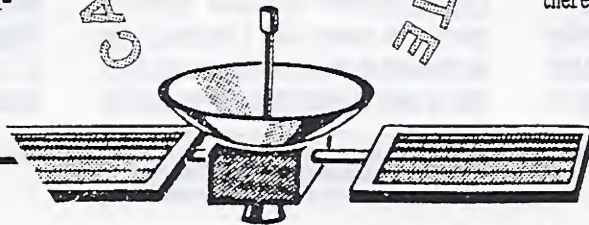
Peter V.: When do you think that 75 metres could commence from Ireland?

Peter Moore: I would hope very much...we know the tx is on the site. I hope very much it'll be operating for our 29th birthday.

Peter V.: Satellite. Caroline has been off because of problems with QEFM and Caroline has also been transmitting via the Intelsat via RNI. RNI went off the air but is now back. So Caroline is also back on Intelsat...

Peter Moore: Indeed Caroline is back on the Intelsat. We have had various attempts at satellite broadcasting but one problem in England is that all of the people who in the 1970s were running small pirate stations from their backrooms in their homes- like I was- are now into satellite radio. They're all the same people behaving the same way. Well, we were first on a station called Nova which was very popular although we had to withdraw from that. But that set off in our listeners' minds the idea of us being on satellite. And various groups who were not actually connected with Caroline started to make plans to broadcast on satellite under the name Caroline. So obviously we had to get there first which is why we took some airtime with QEFM in the middle of the night. But the problem with satellite radio

CAROLINE BY SATELLITE



frs goes dx

in England is that there are hardly any cable networks or only very small ones. There's a network in South London operated by United Artists but it only goes to 40,000 homes. So there's no cable and there isn't a great awareness of listening to the radio via satellite to receivers. Obviously you have to be fanatic to listen to the radio with a TV picture just showing nothing. So it's very easy to get on satellite radio in England. A number of people for that reason tried it. QEFM have tried and failed and now they are trying again. Euronet have tried and failed although they're going to try and come back. Various small outfits like Eclipse and Solar have all had a go with it and failed, so I think the outcome has to be that it is just not viable to run a satellite radio station in England if you only intend to reach satellite dish users. Perhaps if it was Caroline there might be such fanatical following, people would go out and buy dishes. But that's what we'll never know.

Peter V.: The Ross is still in Dover. What's the current condition of the ship and can you release any info as far as the future of the ship is concerned?

Peter Moore: The future of Caroline...we never plan very far ahead. Perhaps we plan a day or a week ahead at the very best. When the boat came in after being shipwrecked, it was obviously in very poor condition because of the damage of running aground and because it had been so badly neglected for its few last months at the sea due to a lack of finance. So that however is one reason why we were able to buy the boat back so cheaply from the Dover harbour Board, the ship really was in a poor condition. Since then we've made a number of repairs and we started to clean it up totally. We have repainted the exterior and most of the accommodation. Things that were making life very uncomfortable having no heating and fresh air have been brought back in a good working condition. So the boat is 'healed' and fresh air is circulated

around the cabins and around the machinery. We've repaired mechanical things such as the anchor winch. We've been removing a lot of unwanted material, sold it for scrap and then bought other things with the money. We have reinstated the fire extinguisher in the engine room 'cause if we are going to fix the engine room we need to have that safe. We hope that by Easter we're able to show supporters the main engine running which will encourage them to realize we are one stage further getting the boat complete. And of course they can come to the boat where all equipment has been reinstated after getting it back from Holland.

Peter V.: Peter Chicago has always been the chief engineer on the ship. Is he still involved in the current Caroline. It's quite a while ago since I heard from him.

Peter Moore: Chicago has other work now although he's still in touch. I saw him about a month ago. The man who was really responsible for the ship's system, as a

these supporters who come here to talk about Radio Caroline but I accept when they are not going to hold on this interest forever if we can do nothing to entertain them. The organisation that supports us doesn't really have a budget for broadcasting. It's more a marine support organisation. So these things that we do, FM, satellite, SW, all has to be done on no budget. So I can't answer your question. We are very wary, we are very cautious of taking offers of finance in case this alters Caroline so much that it's no longer interesting for the listeners. Because that easily can happen when large amounts of money are involved. But if we could find a bunch of investors who were willing to help us get back on air and not trying to influence the station's sound, that would be great. I think the easiest thing to do would be to go on Astra satellite 24 hours a day in the hope we could use that to then persuade stations to take our output around Europe, perhaps overnight or at certain times of the day and extend that way. Mostly the supporters

EUROPE'S MUSICAL HEARTBEAT FROM THE NORTHSEA ON 558: RADIO CAROLINE

ship rather than a radio station, was a man from the North of England called Ernie. He was the chief engineer for the trawler company who owned the ship, even before we bought it. We were lucky enough to find him and hire him again in the 80s and then for a while we lost touch with him. But this year by putting an article in a paper in the North of England asking did anyone know where this man was, he got back in touch with us and he'll return to the ship in a few weeks time to overhaul the main engine.

Peter V.: What in your opinion will be the future of Caroline. Will it be FM, satellite, good old AM or perhaps a combination?

Peter Moore: That's an almost impossible question to answer. All I can really say is whatever we do, we gonna have to do it fairly soon because it's nice to have all

want to operate the station from a ship even though that may seem rather foolish now. And equally they want it operated from a ship not tight up in a harbour. So how can we possibly satisfy those requirements without of course getting raided again is another matter. It isn't impossible to have a radio ship within territorial waters. It has already been done in England, so once again: that might be a way satisfying almost every requirement. We still have a ship, we still would be at sea, we would still be broadcasting our normal style, it's just that we wouldn't run the risk of any action from the authorities. That could be the solution for me.

Peter V.: Peter, just a quick look at the British radio situation. What is your idea about stations such as Atlantic 252 & Virgin 1215?

Peter Moore: Well, Virgin 1215

are taking a hell of a chance because of the money they have invested. Obviously Mr. Richard Branson is not a poor man and isn't too much worried about what he spends on Virgin Radio. But he's also a business man. There's such a recession in the UK at the moment that it's a bad time for launching any venture. When Atlantic 252 started, that was in fact the beginning of the end of Radio Luxemburg in the short term because basically both stations were run by the same people. It seems crazy to me that Atlantic 252 use to force a signal into the UK from Ireland simply because that happens to be legal on paper when it wouldn't be legal for us to run very much less power to get a signal into England. I mean, Ireland is an independent state to a degree, so was the Ross Revenge when it was in the middle of the sea. It's just that Ireland has the paperwork, we didn't. If anyone would like to write to Radio Caroline and find out what we do and whether they'd like to get involved, we have an address which is in England. It's the first time we have ever had an address which we dare tell anyone. It's Radio Caroline, 426 Archway Road, Highgate, London N6 4JH London. We would be happy to send off some letters explaining what we do and in the mean time I just thank everyone for being interested. After 29 years it's nice to know Caroline is a fascinating subject. □

Just a quick note: some more information about subjects which you came across in this interview, is to be found in our regular offshore column 'Sounds from Offshore'.

SOUNDS FROM OFFSHORE

(Cont. from page 26)

...director of Radio 270, Wilfred Proudfoot. The Radio Authority granted the two a licence permitting them to set up a local station for the Scarborough area, the same area which was served by the relatively low powered Radio 270 offshore operation in the 1960s. The serious plan is to broadcast from a ship which will be anchored in Scarborough harbour. Broadcasting from a ship...it's in their blood!

* The French television is preparing a special about the forts in the

Thames Estuary. And an independent UK-based production company is preparing to turn the life of Reginald Calvert into a film. Calvert was the Radio City boss and was shot dead in the mid 60s.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

José van Groningen is his name. He used to be Veronica's chief engineer aboard the Norderney. Some five years ago he was asked to do some engineering on the Nannell. He also did some work on the Communicator. Nowadays he is working in the music industry. He is offering copy facilities for background music. His company, RCS, is situated in Mijdrecht *** Some 13 months ago, April 1993, a new UK based station called Pirate FM, started operations in Cornwall. Programme controller was offshore veteran Roger Day (Swinging Radio England, RNI, Caroline) who was forced to leave Invicta Radio a few months earlier because of reorganisation. Now Day has quit his job on Pirate FM because he felt he was spending not enough time on his family in Maidstone. No doubt Roger Day will soon be heard on a new station *** Johnny Lewis was tired of being programme controller on Invicta Radio. Johnny has returned on his roots...simply presenting amusing radio shows *** Nigel Roberts has opened a second hand record shop at Munster Road in Fulham specialising in 60s & 70s stuff. Didn't we already report about Caroline jock Johnny Reece being active in the record business? *** Paul McKenna, once a very talented Caroline deejay, has left the world of radio and has entered the world of clairvoyance. In the mean time he wrote a few highly successful publications and will be soon get his own TV show under the name 'The Hypnotic world of McKenna' on Carlton TV. Wouldn't it be a good idea asking him about the future of Offshore Radio and Radio Caroline? *** Terry Bate was in the 60s and 80s responsible for the sale of commercial airtime on Caroline. He will be starting a new station on the isle of Malta. The name of the station is Radio Calypso starting operations August 1st from a village called Gozo *** Charlie Wolf has left Atlantic 252 after three years and is looking for a new job in the UK *** Who remembers Patrick Valain? Once he was one of the key-figures behind Radio Mi Amigo and also driving force behind the very popular Bel-

gian landbased radio station Radio Maeva. Nowadays he is driving in an expensive Mercedes being heavily involved in the jukebox/pinball machine industry *** Hugo de Groot who was in 1980 deejay on Caroline has become father of a son. He hopes to finish off his sociology studies very soon *** Megastar Kenny Everett announced he was HIV-positive. There has been a lot of speculation about Everett's illness in the British scandal papers. In his Capital Gold radio show Everett openly admitted he was HIV-positive and that the rumours were correct *** Jerry Wright lost his job on Invicta Radio and returned to Caroline. In the mean time Jerry recorded a number of SW programmes and will continue to work for Caroline till he gets a paid job. Good luck Jerry! *** Perhaps almost forgotten is the name of Mike Barrington who was engineer on both Caroline and Laser. He also worked for Roy Bates and lived quite some time on Sealand. Barrington has given up his job. According to him Bates is getting older and his interest for Sealand is at a very low level. There's hardly any maintenance and the supply of the artificial island was rather poor in the past 5 months. And thus Mike Barrington has set foot again on the mainland. □

MORE LETTERS

(Cont. from page 27):

A letter from Yvonne who's involved with Radio Lowland Int. "We think you produce a real good magazine and love to read it. As soon as we recommence trms, we'll let you know." Thank you RLI chaps. We all hope soon to return our dial to 6285. Good luck with your preparations in order to return on SW.

"Thank you for a great magazine. The new, larger issue is very good." Thank you very much Gouran Poulsen from Sweden.

Calum McLoad from Scotland is so convinced about FRS DX's quality that he writes "I will definitely renew my subscription in 1994. Keep up the excellent work." We drink a glass of real blended Scotch whisky on that Calum. Cheers!

Due to lack of space we haven't printed all letters. The others will be included in issue 124. □

SHORT WAVE SURVEY



Here are the logs covering
the March 27th- May 30th period.

Freq	Time	Name of the station	U.K.	Cont.	Remarks
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SATURDAY MARCH 27th 1993

3910	23.16	CPBN Radio	---	0=3	
3917	23.35	Radio Without Borders	0=4	0=3	Russian, talk
6200	10.53	Radio X	---	0=3	QSO
6210	17.40	Heavy Dude Radio	0=4	---	
6222	10.38	DLLR	0=4	0=3	
6229	12.40	Jolly Roger Radio	0=3	0=2	
6239	10.55	Southern Music Radio	---	0=1-2	
6295	10.02	Radio Caroline	0=4	0=3	
6400	12.35	Radio Atlantis	0=4	0=2	
6910	13.35	Radio Dublin	0=3	---	
7380	20.30	Idea Radio	---	0=4	Italian, Genova add

SUNDAY MARCH 28th 1993

3905	00.24	Subterranean Sounds	0=3	0=2	See news
3911	00.25	Radio Without Borders	0=4	0=3	See Artiom's column
3915	00.22	Radio Pirana	0=4	0=2	
3915	02.30	Radio 75	0=3	---	See Artiom's column
3918	20.58	Radio Pirana	---	0=3	QSO, USB
3918	22.30	Live Wire Radio	---	0=2	QSO, USB
3932	02.00	Radio Pluto	0=3	---	
6199	09.35	Renegade Sounds	0=3	0=2	
6200	09.22	Unid	---	0=3	QSO
6200	10.28	Radio Delta	0=4	0=4	Strong as always!
6205	08.30	Radio X	---	0=3	test, 1 watt!
6222	08.15	DLLR	0=4	0=3	
6229	08.15	Jolly Roger Radio	0=3	0=2	
6239	08.15	Radio Merlin Int.	0=4	0=2	
6240	00.14	Riverside 101	---	0=3	
6252	09.08	Radio Northsea Int.	---	0=3	See news
6255	11.50	Radio Pirana	0=1	---	
6262	10.08	Radio Merlin Int.	0=4	0=3	
6268	11.20	Emerald Radio INT.	0=3	0=3	
6275	09.55	Nitrozone	---	0=2	
6279	10.12	Ozone Radio Int.	0=4	0=3	
6285	09.25	Radio Caldonia	0=2	0=3-4	bad mode
6290	09.30	Unid	---	0=2	German, talk
6295	08.15	Radio Caroline	0=4	0=2	
6400	11.26	Radio Atlantis	0=4	0=3	
6538	16.11	Unid	0=1	---	music
6910	09.57	Radio Dublin	0=3	---	
7294	08.16	Radio Europe	---	0=2	//11401
7306	07.00	Radio Waves Int.	---	0=2	
7380	08.30	Idea Radio	---	0=3	
7380	11.41	Unid	---	0=3	

7446	06.25	Radio Stella	0=4	0=3	
7446	09.42	Radio Recharge Int.	0=3	---	
7473	08.25	Radio Waves Int.	0=2	0=3	
7480	10.34	Unid	---	0=4	Hebrew language?!
7547	10.34	Unid	0=1	---	
11401	08.25	Radio Waves Int.	---	0=3	//7473
12265	11.05	Wreckin' Radio Int.	---	0=1	

SATURDAY APRIL 3rd 1993

3917	23.16	Radio W. Borders Int.	--	0=4	
6200	11.04	Radio London	0=3-5	---	
6210	10.20	Unid	---	0=3	
6222	08.45	DLLR	0=4-5	0=2	
6230	22.55	Jolly Roger Radio	---	0=3-4	See news
6239	09.00	Riverside 101	0=3-5	0=3	
6262	08.50	Riverside 101	0=3	0=2	See news
6295	08.53	Radio Caroline	0=4-5	0=3	
6400	12.23	Radio Atlantis	0=3-5	0=3	See news
6910	10.17	Radio Dublin	0=3-5	---	
7294	09.20	Radio Marabu	---	0=2	

SUNDAY APRIL 4th 1993

3910	15.15	Reflections Europe	0=5	---	
6200	12.40	Unid	0=4	---	R.Free Britain??
6205	15.16	Reflections Europe	0=5	---	
6210	09.30	Heavy Dude Radio	---	0=4	
6211	13.38	Radio Atlantis	0=3	---	
6222	07.23	DLLR	0=4-5	0=3	
6229	07.45	Jolly Roger Radio	0=4-5	0=2	
6239	07.20	Radio Marabu	0=4-5	0=3	
6239	12.15	NIRS	0=4-5	0=3	See news
6240	09.21	Unid	---	0=2-3	
6240	12.21	Radio Merlin	0=3-5	---	
6250	10.00	East Coast Commercial	0=4-5	0=3	
6257	13.50	Unid	---	0=2	English, music
6267	10.55	Radio Merlin Int.	0=5	0=3	
6276	13.15	Unid	---	0=1	
6280	09.59	Ozone Radio	0=4-5	---	
6295	08.55	Radio Caroline	0=4-5	0=3-4	
6558	08.05	Radio Brigitte	0=3	0=3	poor mode
6910	07.44	Radio Dublin	0=3-5	---	
7140	07.05	Radio Italia Int.	---	0=3	
7294	07.00	Radio Europe	---	0=3	
7380	07.05	Idea Radio	---	0=3	
7415	09.56	Radio Fusion Int.	---	0=3-4	
7415	13.40	Wave Radio Int.	0=3	0=4	QSO to Fusion
7473	10.05	Radio Waves Int.	---	0=3	
7473	09.04	Crazy Wave Radio	---	0=3	Via Waves
7495	09.30	Radio Mi Amigo	0=4	---	
7543	12.07	Radio Brigitte	---	0=2	
11401	08.38	Radio Waves Int.	0=4	0=1-3	
12265	08.36	Wreckin' Radio Int.	---	0=3-4	

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SATURDAY APRIL 10th 1993

3905	23.05	Subterranean Sounds	0=3	0=2	
3915	21.50	Radio Without Borders	---	0=3-4	
6204	11.30	Radio X	0=5	0=5	
6206	10.04	Unid	0=1	0=4	Radio Jimmy???
6210	11.25	Radio Atlantis	0=4-5	0=2	
6222	09.05	DLLR	---	0=3	
6229	09.00	Jolly Roger Radio	0=3-4	0=2	
6229	11.20	Radio Europe	0=4	---	
6240	07.15	Riverside 101	0=4	0=3	Via NIRS
6240	10.05	Radio Merlin Int.	0=4	---	Via NIRS
6267	09.10	Radio Merlin Int.	0=2-4	0=4	Via NIRS
6285	10.23	Unid	---	0=3	mx, very low mod
6295	07.20	Radio Caroline	0=4-5	0=3-4	
6910	10.45	Radio Dublin	0=1-3	---	

SUNDAY APRIL 11th 1993

3910	16.19	Reflections Europe	0=1	---	
3915	01.00	Radio W. Borders Int.	---	0=3	
3917	23.10	Radio Pirana int.	---	0=3	USB
4764	15.35	Radio Pamela	0=4	---	See news
6200	09.38	Unid	---	0=3	music
6202	13.36	Weekend Music Radio		0=3	0=3
6202	14.06	Crazy Wave R. Int.	---	0=3	strange voices show
6203	13.18	Weekend Music Radio	0=3	---	
6205	09.15	Unid	0=3-4	0=2-4	KAOS???
6205	15.23	Reflections Europe	0=5	---	
6210	08.40	Radio Star	0=1-3	0=3	
6210	10.30	Radio Atlantis	0=3-5	0=3	
6216	10.10	Unid	---	0=3	
6217	09.49	Radio Brigitte	0=2-3	0=3	bad mode
6222	08.00	DLLR	0=3-4	0=2	
6225	08.35	Unid	---	0=3	classical music
6229	08.20	Jolly Roger radio	0=2-3	0=3	
6234	16.50	Britain Radio Int.	0=4	---	
6240	07.40	Radio Scot. Montreal	---	0=3-4	Relay
6240	08.45	Radio Active Int.	0=4	0=4	Via NIRS
6240	13.18	Southern Music Radio	0=3-4	---	Via NIRS
6252	08.40	Radio Northsea	---	0=3	
6267	07.45	Radio Merlin Int.	0=3-4	0=3	Via NIRS
6277	09.35	Radio Caldonia	0=1-3	0=2-3	weird audio, test
6280	10.29	Ozone Radio	0=3	0=2	
6295	07.50	Radio Caroline	0=3-4	0=3-4	
6400	09.10	Laser Rock	0=4	0=4	See news
6400	11.14	Radio Atlantis	---	0=3	test
6555	14.14	Radio X	---	0=3	QSO
6555	14.17	Radio Santana	---	0=4	QSO
6555	14.18	Radio Pluto	---	0=4	
6556	14.27	Radio Brigitte	---	0=3	QSO
6570	12.48	Radio Pluto	---	0=3	QSO
6910	08.05	Radio Dublin	0=3	0=3	
7140	09.45	Radio Italia Int.	---	0=4	

7294	07.13	Radio Europe	---	0=3	
7294	11.04	CLCG	---	0=3	
7380	06.40	Idea Radio	---	0=3	
7415	10.30	Radio Pirana	0=1	0=3	
7420	10.35	Unid	0=1	0=4	
7446	07.35	Radio Stella	0=3	0=3	
7473	08.10	Radio Waves	---	0=2	
7484	20.22	Radio Waves	---	0=3	
12392	12.02	Radio Pirana Int.	0=1	---	See news

MONDAY APRIL 12th 1993 (Bank Holiday)

6210	08.35	Heavy Dude Radio	0=2-3	0=2-3	
6222	09.45	DLLR	0=4	0=2-3	
6229	07.30	Jolly Roger Radio	---	0=2-3	
6234	09.25	Britain Radio Int.	0=1	0=2-3	
6240	07.15	Riverside 101	0=2-3	0=3	Via NIRS
6267	09.10	Radio Merlin Int.	0=2-4	0=3	Via NIRS
6278	09.15	Unid	---	0=3	
6280	10.12	Ozone Radio Int.	---	0=2	
6287	10.59	Nytrozone	---	0=2	
6560	07.50	Unid	---	0=2	
7294	07.55	Radio Europe	---	0=2-3	
7360	10.10	Britain Radio Int.	---	0=2	
7380	08.00	Idea Radio	---	0=4	Italian station
7410	10.14	Subterranean Sounds	---	0=3	
7473	08.05	Radio Waves	---	0=2	
7484	08.45	Radio Marabu	---	0=3	

SATURDAY APRIL 17th 1993

3906	23.15	Radio Without Borders	0=3	0=2	
3910	23.45	Weekend Music Radio	0=4	---	
3925	22.32	Radio Caroline	---	0=2	//6295
3936	23.15	Radio Caroline	0=4	0=3	
4764	16.05	Radio Pamela	0=4	---	
6200	11.13	Orang Utan	0=4	---	See news
6210	11.00	Radio Atlantis	0=4-5	0=5	
6295	11.13	Radio Caroline	0=4-5	0=2-4	//3925
6295	11.50	Riverside 101	0=2	---	Via NIRS
6910	11.41	Radio Dublin	0=3	---	

SUNDAY APRIL 18th 1993

3910	15.05	Reflections Europe	0=3-5	---	
3917	23.09	Radio Pirana	0=3	---	
3934	20.15	Radio Caroline	0=3	0=3	//6295
6200	07.55	Orang Utan	0=3-5	0=3-4	
6200	10.00	FRSH	0=3-5	0=3-4	Via Orang Utan
6205	15.04	Reflections Europe	0=5	---	
6226	11.24	DLLR	0=2-3	0=2-3	
6230	11.17	Jolly Roger Radio	0=3-4	0=2	
6240	07.20	Riverside 101	---	0=3	Via NIRS

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SUNDAY APRIL 18TH (Cont.)

6240	08.20	Crazy Wave Radio	0=2	0=2-3	Via NIRS
6240	11.18	Radio Merlin Int.	0=2-4	0=3	Via NIRS
6280	11.19	Ozone Radio Int.	0=2-4	0=2	
6295	15.36	Radio Caroline	0=1-3	0=3-5	//3934
6400	11.03	Radio Atlantis	0=2-5	0=3	
6545	10.00	Unid	---	0=2	Italian
6910	10.30	Radio Dublin	0=3	---	
7294	08.40	Radio Europe	---	0=3	
7381	07.25	Idea Radio	---	0=2	
7415	13.15	Weekend Music Radio	---	0=3	

SATURDAY APRIL 24th 1993

3902	22.50	Radio Adelante	---	0=2	//3920
3906	22.39	Radio Without Borders	0=2	0=3	
3910	22.17	Radio Recharge	0=3	0=3	Via R.Stella
3910	23.10	Radio Stella	0=3	0=3	
3915	22.19	Radio 75	---	0=2	Russian, music
3920	22.55	Radio Adelante	0=2	0=3	
6205	11.46	Radio X	0=2	---	
6220	09.20	Unid	0=3	---	
6227	07.38	DLLR	0=4-5	0=3	
6234	23.02	Jolly Roger Radio	---	0=2	
6240	07.32	Riverside 101	0=2-4	0=3	Via NIRS
6240	10.30	Radio Merlin Int.	0=2-5	---	Via NIRS
6240	19.35	Riverside 101	0=5	---	
6295	12.24	Radio Caroline	0=4-5	0=4	
6400	10.33	Radio Atlantis	0=3-5	---	
6910	10.02	Radio Dublin	0=2-4	---	
14430	22.08	Radio USA	---	0=1	LSB

SUNDAY APRIL 25th 1993

3910	09.34	Radio Stella	0=4-5	---	
3910	16.01	Reflections Europe	0=1-5	---	
3918	22.36	Radio Pirana	0=3	---	
6200	09.04	Starclub Radio	0=3-5	0=4	Via Orang Utan
6205	16.00	Reflections Europe	0=5	---	
6211	09.45	Radio X	---	0=3	QSO to R.Daiwa
6214	08.54	Radio Pacman	0=3	---	
6214	08.55	Radio Daiwa	---	0=4	QSO to Pacman,
6220	09.33	Eur.Christian Radio	0=1	---	
6226	06.57	DLLR	0=4-5	0=3	
6235	07.55	Radio Marabu	0=3-4	0=3	Via Jolly Roger
6235	09.36	Jolly Roger Radio	0=3	0=2	
6235	11.42	Britain Radio Int.	0=2-3	0=3	See news
6240	06.58	Riverside 101	0=3-4	0=2	Via NIRS
6240	10.25	Southern Music Radio	0=3-5	0=3	Via NIRS
6240	11.46	Concept Radio	0=2-5	---	Via NIRS
6250	10.54	Weekend Music Radio	0=4-5	0=3	
6252	08.32	Radio Northsea Int.	---	0=3	
6255	12.18	FRS London	0=3	---	Still no address

6268	09.41	Radio Pluto	---	0=3	QSO
6280	10.23	Ozone Radio Int.	0=1-5	0=2	
6295	07.23	Radio Caroline	0=4-5	0=3	
6400	10.49	Radio Atlantis	0=3-5	---	
6400	11.15	Laser Rock	---	0=2	
6557	09.35	Radio Brigitte	0=2	0=3	
6910	08.31	Radio Dublin	0=4-5	---	
7294	08.24	Radio Europe	---	0=3	USB
7360	11.43	Britain Radio Int.	0=3-4	0=3	
7381	08.25	Idea Radio	---	0=3	
7415	14.08	Radio Fusion Int.	---	0=4	
7425	10.19	Radio Delta	0=4	0=4	From Elburg
7430	09.46	Radio Delta (Elburg)	---	0=3-4	
7446	08.20	Radio Stella Int.	0=3-5	0=3	
7446	08.28	Radio Recharge	0=2-4	0=3	//11413
7460	09.15	Radio Mi Amigo Int.	---	0=2	
7473	06.59	Radio Waves Int.	0=2	0=2-4	
7473	08.30	Radio Catapulte	---	0=2-3	
7540	10.40	Radio Mi Amigo Int.	0=3	---	
7558	10.15	Radio Mi Amigo Int.	0=4	---	
11401	08.43	Radio Catapulte	---	0=2	
11401	11.37	Radio Waves Int.	---	0=3	
11413	08.25	Radio Recharge	---	0=3	
11413	09.38	Radio Stella Int.	---	0=4	
12265	10.08	Wreckin' Radio Int.	---	0=2-3	music, test

SATURDAY MAY 1st 1993

3910	23.02	Radio W. Borders Int.	0=2	---	
3912	23.45	Romantic Space Radio	0=2	---	
3933	23.47	Weekend Music Radio	0=4	---	
3933	23.58	Radio London	0=4	---	
3945	22.37	Radio Stella Int.	0=3	0=3	See news
6205	09.04	Radio X	0=2	---	
6226	22.36	DLLR	0=4-5	0=3	
6235	09.03	Radio Marabu	0=4-5	---	Via NIRS
6240	22.33	Riverside 101	0=3-5	0=3	Via NIRS
6240	10.56	Radio Merlin Int.	0=4-5	---	Via NIRS
6275	15.26	Radio Orion	0=4	---	
6280	15.29	Radio Mi Amigo	0=4	---	
6295	22.38	Radio Caroline	0=3-5	0=3	
6400	11.03	Radio Atlantis	0=3-5	---	
6911	13.06	Radio Dublin	0=1-4	---	
7446	23.05	Radio Stella Int.	---	0=3	

SUNDAY MAY 2nd 1993

3905	00.08	Radio Fusion Int.	---	0=3	
3910	15.02	Reflections Europe	0=2	---	
3910	23.10	Radio Pirana	0=3	---	
3916	22.05	Radio Pirana	---	0=3	
3916	23.38	Radio Waves	---	0=3	
3918	23.05	Radio Without Borders	0=3	---	
3933	23.53	Weekend Music Radio	---	0=4	
3934	01.53	Radio Pirana	0=2	---	

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SUNDAY MAY 2nd 1993 (Cont.)

3934	23.47	Radio Pirana	0=2	---	
3935	23.35	Wave Radio Int.	---	0=3	
6202	11.32	Weekend Music Radio	0=2-4	---	
6204	12.23	FRS London	0=4	---	
6205	15.01	Reflections Europe	0=5	---	
6210	08.40	Heavy Dude Radio	---	0=3	
6220	08.43	Unid	0=2	---	
6226	07.01	DLLR	0=4-5	---	
6230	09.13	Unid	---	0=3	music
6235	07.02	Jolly Roger Radio	0=3-5	---	
6240	07.52	Radio Marabu	0=3	---	Via NIRS
6240	09.31	Radio Merlin Int.	0=3	---	Via NIRS
6240	12.20	RFM	0=4	---	Via NIRS
6240	15.33	R.Free Massachusetts	0=4	---	Via NIRS
6240	17.35	Riverside 101	0=4-5	---	Via NIRS
6255	08.58	East Coast Commercial	0=4	---	
6265	11.41	FRS London	0=4	---	
6275	07.56	UK Radio/R.Orion	0=4	---	
6280	09.41	Ozone Radio Int.	0=3-4	---	
6290	10.10	Radio Rabbit Int.	---	0=3	
6295	09.10	Radio Caroline	0=4-5	0=2-3	
6400	10.31	Radio Atlantis	0=4-5	---	
6911	07.05	Radio Dublin	0=4	---	
7415	11.54	CPBN	---	0=3	
7425	07.10	Unid	0=4	---	music
7430	11.20	Unid	---	0=3	
7446	07.11	Radio Stella	0=4	---	
7460	09.42	R.Mi Amigo Int.	0=3	---	
7473	07.06	Crazy Wave Radio	0=2	---	Via Waves
11413	10.00	Radio Stella	---	0=2	
12265	09.19	Wreckin' Radio Int.	---	0=3	

MONDAY MAY 3rd 1993 (Bank Holiday)

6206	08.47	Station Sierra Sierra	0=1-3	---	
6226	08.14	DLLR	0=4	---	
6235	07.48	Jolly Roger Radio	0=2-4	---	
6235	09.32	Britain Radio Int.	0=2-3	---	
6240	10.35	Radio Merlin Int.	0=1-4	---	
6288	12.26	FRS London	0=4	---	
6290	09.31	Subterranean Sounds	0=4	---	
6292	14.28	Radio Armadillo	0=3	---	
6293	12.04	Radio Gloria	0=3	---	
6910	13.30	Radio Dublin	0=3	---	
7460	11.20	Radio Mi Amigo	0=4	---	

SATURDAY MAY 8th 1993

3935	07.20	Unid	0=5	---	unmodulated carrier
6205	09.02	Radio X	0=1	---	
6225	10.29	DLLR	0=3-4	---	
6229	07.49	Radio Marabu	0=1-3	---	

6295	07.28	Radio Caroline	0=3-4	---	
6400	11.02	Radio Atlantis	0=3-5	---	

SUNDAY MAY 9th 1993

3910	15.15	Reflections Europe	0=2-5	---	
3945	09.36	Radio Stella	0=2-3	---	
6200	07.51	Radio Delta Ruurlo	0=5	---	
6206	15.15	Reflections Europe	0=5	---	
6225	10.54	DLLR	0=5	---	
6229	08.36	Jolly Roger Radio	0=2-3	---	
6235	12.34	Britain Radio Int.	0=1	---	
6252	08.03	Radio Northsea Int.	0=2	---	
6295	07.46	Radio Caroline	0=5	---	
6375	12.55	Unid	0=2	---	
6400	13.00	Radio Atlantis	0=5	---	
6910	11.23	Radio Dublin	0=4-5	---	
7473	07.00	Southern Music Radio	0=2	---	Via Waves

SATURDAY MAY 15th 1993

6210	09.16	Unid	0=4	---	continuous music
6230	07.57	Jolly Roger Radio	0=4	---	
6230	12.55	Radio London	0=4	---	Via JRR
6230	13.23	Radio Peace in Action	0=4	---	Via JRR
6295	07.21	Radio Caroline	0=5	---	
6400	11.00	Radio Atlantis	0=5	---	
6911	07.22	Radio Dublin	0=2	---	

SUNDAY MAY 16th 1993

3910	15.00	Reflections Europe	0=3	---	
3945	07.02	Radio Stella Int.	0=2	---	
6200	07.32	Radio Orang Utan	0=4	---	
6200	10.25	Radio Perfekt	0=5	---	
6205	07.49	Radio Dutchboy	0=4	---	
6230	07.50	Jolly Roger Radio	0=2	---	
6240	07.27	Unid	0=3	---	
6240	09.26	Citadel Radio Int.	0=3-4	---	
6280	09.39	Ozone Radio Int.	0=3	---	
6285	08.09	Radio Peace in Action	0=1	---	
6295	07.51	Radio Caroline	0=5	---	
6400	10.09	WNKR	0=4	---	test
6400	11.00	Radio Atlantis	0=5	---	
6475	10.10	Unid	0=3	---	
7446	08.12	Radio Stella Int.	0=2	---	
7473	09.58	Radio Waves Int.	0=2	---	

SATURDAY MAY 22nd 1993

3907	23.58	RWBI	---	0=3	Russian
3918	23.58	Startshine Radio	---	0=4	German, Eng
3945	23.55	Radio Stella	---	0=3	Popmx

SUNDAY MAY 23rd 1993 *

3915	00.32	RWBI	---	0=3	Info on GMRI
3915	00.50	Romantic Space Radio	---	0=3	Via RWBI
3916	00.29	Green Music Radio	---	0=2	See Artion's column
3918	00.05	Starshine Radio	---	0=4	E,G;CQ to Pirana
3918	00.27	Radio Pirana	---	0=4	E,Qso-ing, USB
3918	00.44	Radio Fusion	---	0=4	Qso-ing, USB
3944	00.30	Radio Stella	---	0=2	Weekly service
6199	09.34	Radio Delta Ruurlo	0=5	0=4	Very strong
6210	08.19	Heavy Dude Radio	0=4	0=2-4	Low mod
6238	00.21	Belgian Int. Relay S.	0=4	0=3	See news
6252	08.25	Radio Northsea	0=2	0=3-4	
6295	08.20	Radio Caroline	0=4=5	0=4	
6399	09.23	FRS-Holland	0=2-5	0=4	See FRS Newsc.
7446	09.20	Radio Stella	0=2-3	0=2	
7473	08.26	RWI	0=2	0=2	
11401	09.50	RWI	0=2	0=2	Very low mod

SATURDAY MAY 29TH 1993 *

6200	11.35	Unid	0=4	---	Briefly on air
6230	08.02	Jolly Roger Radio	0=4	---	
6230	09.13	Britain Radio Int.	0=4	---	Relay via JRR?
6295	07.14	Radio Caroline	0=2	---	From Waterford
6400	10.59	Radio Ability	0=5	---	Test broadcast

SUNDAY MAY 30TH 1993 *

3910	16.51	Reflections Europe	0=1-2	---	
3945	07.38	Radio Stella Int.	0=2	---	
6200	07.37	Radio Orang Utan	0=5	0=4	Oldies with Freddie
6200	09.44	Radio Francis Drake	0=4	0=4	G, via Orang Utan
6200	11.18	Unid	0=2	---	
6205	16.50	Reflections Europe	0=5	0=3	//3910
6210	10.46	Radio Atlantis	0=4	0=2	
6220	08.10	European Chr. Radio	0=2	0=3	
6230	06.53	JRR	0=4	0=2	
6240	06.54	Radio Freewave	0=4	0=3	
6240	16.55	Radio Freewave	0=4	---	Relay via BIRS?
6240	18.00	Radio Perfect	0=4	---	Relay via BIRS?
6258	09.01	Radio Aura	0=4	0=3-4	See news
6285	10.54	Unid	0=1-2	---	
6295	06.55	Radio Caroline	0=5	0=3-4	
6295	08.11	Found. of Human Und.	0=5	0=5	See Offsh. Section
7415	08.28	Radio Fusion Int.	0=1-2	---	
7446	08.12	RST	0=1-2	0=2	

GENERAL

Weird conditions ruled the airwaves in the past period. Some listeners use the description 'BAD' but that's not always the case! Long skip is the keyword. That means that signals are characterized by a long path. The result is that many SW listeners can hardly receive certain stations, sometimes even not at all.

You get a very muddled situation, it's a jumble! It is no

exception that person 1 doesn't receive a station only very poor or not at all whereas person 2, living only 100 kilometres apart from number 1, receives that same station in excellent quality. In this respect it's very important to know what the distance is between transmitter and receiver. The greater the distance is, the more chance there is the listener's reception is affected by long skip conditions. The reverse is of course the case when the distance between the two is getting shorter. LONG SKIP, a phenomenon always surfacing towards the summer. In fact it's the period April- August when it all happens with perhaps the emphasis on May, June & July. People who cannot receive a signal from a certain station are situated in the so-called 'dead zone', an area in which the signal is non-existent because of the long path. The latter is a result of the weird propagation conditions. Talking of weird conditions brings back a number of memories. It must have been 1982 when FRS-Holland became acquainted with long skip. It was so confusing to learn from a number of monitoring stations they couldn't hear any FRS signal that it was decided to switch off the tx thinking it had developed a technical fault! Once again, where some people think conditions are bad, the contrary can be the case. For example April 18th there was long skip during FRSH's 6200 broadcast. There was a radius varying between 100 and 200 kilometres in which nothing was to be heard. Outside of this dead zone people could hear FRS-Holland in a splendid quality. Reports with 0=4/5 were the rule rather than the exception!! This example makes perfectly clear that it concerned funny and not particularly bad conditions. One last remark with regard to this interesting theory: radio stations on short wave can influence the length of the path the signal goes. The lower the aerial is erected, the better it will be. In other words: when hanging an aerial some 20 metres above the ground will result in larger dead zones compared with using an aerial hanging some 6 metres above ground level. In this way a station can indeed have some influence on the situation. But the weather remains the most important factor.

The above story does NOT mean conditions have only been weird in the past two months. Indeed there have been a number of real bad Sundays, for instance Easter Sun and Sun May 9th. May has been a rather poor month in the past years. Remember a number of total fade outs when even the legal 100 kW+ stations disappeared as if they weren't broadcasting. These things mostly happened in.... May.

In the mean time 48 metre conditions during late evening and overnight are very favourable for long distance reception. At approx. 21.00 UTC, the 48 mb is open. In this time of the year it's interesting to see the increased Saturday nighttime activities in the 6200- 6300 range. Look at some of the Irish stations booming in loud & clear in the darkness on the continent. So far 76 metres rules the Sat night airwaves compared with 48. Although 48 users tend to get more mail compared with their 76 mb colleagues. FRS-Holland got a very good response on a number of 48 mb nighttime trms in the past three years.

There has been much activity on the various bands. As far as we know no raids and no real spectacular developments. WNKR is preparing a return on 48 & 76 metres and Radio Stella has become a regular weekend 76 mb user. And last but not least: it seems a very famous SW station is making preparations

to return on SW. At present time we cannot give more info. But we will do as soon as we have permission. Now let's take a look at the...

SW NEWSSECTION

RADIO ATLANTIS. This UK station, putting out its programming from a location in the Midlands, is running a regular Wednesday (13.00-17.00 UTC), Saturday (11.00-16.00 UTC) and Sunday (see Sat) schedule. During Weds a 12 element beam is being used with some 10 dB gain giving strong signals in Central and Southern Europe. So far reports (and phone-calls) have been received from countries such as Greece, Spain and Turkey. Recently the station introduced a 1st Sat of the month afternoon DX-Show presented by Mike Stevens). Other names include station OP Sid Morris, Dean Saunders and Spencer Davis. After receiving a letter from FRS-Holland prior to FRSH's 23rd May 6400 broadcast, Radio Atlantis made a sporting gesture and decided to keep 6400 clear. The station used 6210 instead. In a recent letter to FRSGDX, Sid Morris pointed out that Atlantis could also use 6350 kHz which seems to be a clear frequency. Thanks for your cooperation and info package Sid. Address is 52 Hackwood House, Hartlebury Rd, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 1 EG in England.



QSL RADIO ATLANTIS INTERNATIONAL

48 Meters Short Wave

RADIO CATAPULTE is a new French station making use of the RWI facilities. These broadcasts are in French. Trms are also running via JRR and these are in English. Catapulte seems to have problems with reception reports as no letters have been forwarded from the Wuppertal maildrop to the station's HQ in the past weeks and even months. As far as we know the Wuppertal maildrop has built up a good reputation, so what could be wrong?? You should expect that at least some letters have been sent to Catapulte... Address is (1). April 25th Catapulte was noted on 7473 kHz.

JOLLY ROGER RADIO is rather annoyed about DLR Radio shifting frequency to 6226. This is only 3 kHz below JRR's fixed 6229 outlet. Some months ago we reported that JRR and DLR came to some kind of agreement when JRR's OP Joe Vincent wrote a letter to DLR requesting them to move a few kHz down the band. DLR kindly complied with the request and moved to 6222. But suddenly DLR went back to 6226 creating the same situation as a few months ago. The annoying thing for Joe Vincent is A) that he's operating on 6229 for several years and B) that DLR transmitter produces a more powerful signal. JRR has now started jam-

ming DLR out (at the end of April) causing a heterodyne. Let's hope there will soon come an end to this situation and that all stations involved will benefit from a fair & good solution. May 2nd JRR was heard on 6234 kHz. So we are not sure whether jamming was continued in May. In a letter to FRSGDX JRR main man Joe Vincent writes: "Recently I have received lots of mail for Riverside 101 at P.O.Box 39, Waterford in Ireland. The address for Riverside 101 is same as the NISWRS. Only JRR, Hobo Radio Int. & Radio Shamrock use the P.O.Box 39 Waterford address." Thanks Joe for your info!! So once again: the Riverside 101 address is (2).

Some recent news about **RADIO MI AMIGO** following the report in issue 122 in which the return of proper SW trms was announced. In recent months several broadcasts went out on various frequencies. March 31st saw the station testing on 6402 with a fair UK signal. Sun April 1st and Sun May 2nd Mi Amigo was heard with scheduled trms on 7460 kHz. Further extra trms went out on Sat May 1st on 6280 and on Sun May 9th and 23rd on 6376 kHz. Signal on the 9th May was good in the UK, on the 23rd a poor/fair signal was received on the continent. Mi Amigo has also been testing on 7558 (XMAS's fixed frequency for its annual X-Mas broadcasts) and 7540. If everything has turned out o.k., June 6th will see (saw) the introduction of Andy Walker's 60 minute Free Radio Show as part of Mi Amigo's programming. Andy used to present this show on WNKR but then left the station hosting a show on Radio Fax. Fax was forced to close down and Andy joined satellite broadcaster Euronet. The latter closed down in March of this year. No luck for Andy. So now Andy's back on SW with news and extracts from various off-shore/landbased radio stations. It is to be hoped Andy will get a good response for his future F.R. Shows. It takes much effort to compile such pxs making it more or less a MUST to get a more or less good response! Good luck Andy. Address is (1). And finally: 6476 is the new fixed Mi Amigo frequency from June onwards.

RADIO ORION has carried out an all time minimum of broadcasts in recent months. Has all spirit

disappeared?? Sun May 2nd saw the station being active on 6275 kHz. Address is still the same: 6 Worcester Street, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV2 4LD in the UK.

In the previous SW column we carried a brief report about the German station RADIO JOYSTICK. The station has indeed returned on SW with some fresh programming. The station has been off the air for a number of years. The station OP is still the very same person: Charlie Prince who called it a day because of a disappointing listener's response. Hopefully he won't be disappointed this time as also these days station OPs are complaining about a poor feedback. Address is Box 100812, 4330 Muhlheim a/d Ruhr 1 in Germany. Good luck Charlie.

We received an open letter from the NORTHERN IRELAND SW RELAY SERVICE.

"It's with great sadness in this letter that I must officially inform every one that the NISWRS will be winding down its operation at the end of May. This is especially sad for me as the Relay Service has become quite successful with stations as far away as New Zealand and North America using us to broadcast their programming to Europe. The closure is due to the loss of our tx site. We have discussed to stay on with the new owners but this has been unsuccessful. To operate the Relay Service properly a reliable and safe tx site is top priority and I believe it would be unfair to ourselves and to those using our facilities to try and operate the Relay Service without a secure site. I hope the closure of the Relay Service will be as short lived as possible and I look forward to the day we return from a new tx site hopefully sooner rather than later."

The open letter, dated April 13th, was written by Station OP Andy Craig and specifically aimed at publications and radio stations. We'd like to wish Andy all the best. Hopefully the NISWRS will soon be back where it

belongs: on SW. Address remains (2).



RADIO ORANG UTAN was heard on twp 3rd Sundays: April 18th & May 16th. Both times strong signals were provided by the 100W tx. As always Sat afternoon brief tests, prior to the actual broadcast, were noted on 6200. Most of the station's output consists of oldies and people can call the station via the Int. access code followed by 8363- 1872. Freddie will keep the station on air during the summer period provided conditions remain reliable. Address is P.O.Box 114, 7040 AC 's-Heerenberg in the Netherlands.

mention two frequencies in the 13 mb being used by the station: 21590 and 21780 kHz. The address is (6).

RADIO STELLA INT. have been introducing 76 mb broadcasts. Mon April 19th saw the first evening tests on 3910 and more tests were carried out the following two days. During daytime 7446 and 11413 were also in operation from the Irish tx site. After the three day testing period, RSI started a regular 76 mb service as from Sat April 24th onwards and on the 25th the service was noted too. The first May weekend Sat/ Sun May 1st/2n RSI shifted frequency chosing WNKR's former 3945 kHz channel. Eversince RSI has noted with a weekly Sat overnight service. Signals on the continent tend to be fair.ce.been As you could read in edition 122, WNKR lost its 76 mb tx in March when it was stolen from the tx site.

Back now to RSI: on Sun mornings RSI continues to be

active on 7446//11413 with fair signals on the continent. Address is 82 Pentland Place, Kircaldy Fife in Scotland. When sending sufficient return postage, you will get a photo of the equipment, a qsl and info-sheets in return. RSI offers relay facilities for any station OP who's seriously interested.

LASER ROCK was heard over the Easter weekend with deejays known from WNKR/WFEL. The station used 6400 kHz making use of the WNKR tx. Signal on the

10 YEARS
International pirate station since 1977

ORANG UTAN

QSL FOR :

NAME G CAnu.

RECEIVED ON 23 July 89

TIME 7.56 u.t.c

FREQUENCY 6205 kHz

SINPO 24332



THE MONKEY OF THE NETHERLANDS
ON MW WITH 200 W

RADIO PIRANA has been active on various frequencies. We mention a number of occasions: April 11th on three frequencies: 12392, 7415 & 15043. A week later a 2 hour test was conducted on 11412 kHz with only 20W. That Sun evening Pirana was on 3917 in USB. It seems that the 26 mb has got the attention from the station OP. More or less regular 76 mb trms are being aired Sun evenings around 3917 kHz/USB. June 20th Pirana will be beaming its signal towards South America on 13950 kHz starting at 21.00 or 22.00 UTC. Finally we

active on 7446//11413 with fair signals on the continent. Address is 82 Pentland Place, Kircaldy Fife in Scotland. When sending sufficient return postage, you will get a photo of the equipment, a qsl and info-sheets in return. RSI offers relay facilities for any station OP who's seriously interested.

LASER ROCK was heard over the Easter weekend with deejays known from WNKR/WFEL. The station used 6400 kHz making use of the WNKR tx. Signal on the

continent was fair, conditions weren't the best that day. Easter Mon saw Laser on 7558 and 7460 making use of the Mi Amigo tx owned by Terry Philips, also an ex-WNKR man. However: these signals seem to be heard by almost no one. Involved were Andy Walker, Martin Davis, Keith Archer, Brad Glastonbury Jr., Rob and Terry Philips. Some 15 letters were received for the easter Sun broadcast and some 6 calls. Not a real great result but as already mentioned: conditions were spoil sport that day! Address is (3).

WEST & NORTH KENT RADIO tested Sun May 16th on 6400 with a solid signal (as always) on the continent. Mod level could be a bit higher. One of the presenters was Andy Walker. It looks like this test was carried out in preparation for a return with scheduled proper trms. As 6400 is most Sundays occupied by Radio Atlantis, WNKR seems to be forced to look out for an alternative frequency. Free DX made mention of the possible use of 6376 kHz as WNKR's sister-station Mi Amigo has tested a couple of times on this frequency. There is also talk of a return with a Sat night-time service on 76 metres. 3945 is now in use by RSI and WNKR could be using either 3860 or 4005, both just outside the 3900-3950 range where all pirates are to be found. Address is (1).

RADIO MERLIN INT. has been heard various times via relays of the NISWRS. As the latter will leave the airwaves, RMI will be relying on its own tx or must find a relaying alternative. The station uses 6300 when using their own transmitter. Address is (5) & Box 293, Merlin, Ontario, Canada NOP 1 W0.

Another station losing its relay facility is the New Zealand based station **SOUTHERN MUSIC RADIO**. The station will possibly continue via RWI's facilities as this happened already several times in the past. May 9th for instance SMR was relayed via RWI on 7473//11401. Address is (4).

RADIO RECHARGE is possibly the first station making use of RSI's relay offer. Recharge was heard on all RSI frequencies: 3910, 7446 & 11413 kHz. The station offers a nice set of qsl cards with pictures of old valve radios. Very


nice indeed. The address is (5).

RIVERSIDE RADIO has also been using the NISWRS as a relay so now and then. Address is 166 Spencer Rd, Waterside, Co. Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

RADIO DELTA ELBURG tested on 7425 Sun April 25th & Sun May 2nd. Both times good signals were received outside the dead zone. In some areas however only a very weak signal was to be heard. Clearly a result of weird conditions... Address is P.O.Box 41, 8080 AA Elburg. Thes station won't return on 48 metres for the time being.

**P.O. BOX 41
ELBURG
HOLLAND
P CODE
8080 AA**

**DUTCH
PIRATE
STATION
180-227 M
MG**



RADIO ~ DELTA

Talking of Delta, the other **RADIO DELTA**, the Ruurlo one, was heard twice in May. May 9th a very strong signal was noted on the usual 6198.5 frequency. That day a new and improved antenna system was in operation. Power was in excess of 0.5 kW...good God yoh... A second trm in May was heard with more or less the same brilliant signal May 23rd on the same frequency. Non-stop pop music (good choice by the way!) was played. Sometimes the mod level was too loud resulting in a bit overmodulated signal (slightly distorted).

It's beyond all doubt Delta

Short Wave News

Ruurlo currently is one of the most powerful SW free radio operations. Address is Box 65, 7260 AB Ruurlo in the Netherlands.

Staying in Holland: **RADIO CALDONIA** carried out a final test April 11th in preparation for regular programming. This test was the last one of a series of four. Caldonia has returned on SW but has to deal with a serious problem: the tx is drifting. As a result we cannot mention one particular channel. We have no mention a frequency range: 6272-6282 kHz. Feed the tx, perhaps that's the solution... Address is P.O.Box 763, 3160 AT Schiedam.

BRITAIN RADIO INT. has upped power and is running nearly 140W of power on 48 metres. The 41 metre tx which is operated on 7360 in parallel with 48 has been modified too resulting in a better audio. Power of this tx is approx. 50W. April 12th BRI played nothing but rock music and called the programme 'BRI Overdrive'. April 25th saw a reduced 6235//7360 service. May 9th saw a reduced schedule and nothing was noted May 23rd passing by without BRI!! Our UK colleagues of Free DX gave a reason for the lack of full broadcasts: a lack of enthusiasm from station OP Roger Davis. Has BRI been affected by bad listeners response or are there other reasons? Come on Roger, keep up the very good work. Hopefully the current situation is only a temporary one as June will see BRI's 13th Birthday. As far as we know this could take place June 13th or the 27th. Judging by celebrations of the past two years, the 2nd June Sun seems to be the most likely one! Hopefully

**BRITAIN
RADIO
48 METRE BAND
S.W.
SUNDAY
MORNINGS
INTERNATIONAL**

that special transmission will take place. Let's be honest: BRI is one of Britain's best SW stations with a great px line-up and several interesting px items. Address is (3).

Remember our story about RADIO IRELAND INT. about the use of 6625 kHz? Some time ago they received an official letter asking the station to close down. 6625 was very close to Shannon Maritime Services' frequency. In the mean time RII has left 6625 and tested on 6298 April 7th. However, 6298 is much too close to Caroline's powerful 6295 outlet. So... Address is Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895 in the USA.

EUROPEAN PIRATE RADIO from Germany is disappointed about the listener's response. Only four letters were received for the Jan. 31st broadcast via the NISWRS. Rather disencouraging indeed. As a result station OP Chris Feeney lost much of its enthusiasm. But: ERP will return this very summer with new programming, perhaps under a brandnew name. We wish him and his mates good luck with lots of mail. Address is (2). Txs to Pirate Chat for this piece of news.

RADIO EAST COAST COMMERCIAL continues with monthly first Sun of the month broadcasts. April 4th saw the station on 6250 and May 2nd 6255 was in use. A solid signal was to be heard in Holland that day. Major part of the broadcast is the DX Section presented by good old Norman Nelson. Neal West is compiling the newssection for him. Address is K-Flats 9-11, Church Street, Cromer, Norfolk NR27 9ER in the UK.

RADIO ARIES, a relatively new station which fully concentrates on the programming side of the SW hobby, hasn't been heard since January. An April trm was planned but it looks like that August will see the next broadcast not only in English but also French and German. New jingles are currently produced and there might even be a new qsl card. Address is (1).

RADIO NORTHSEA INT. from Germany has become a regular broadcaster. The station can be heard at least once a month on a fixed frequency: 6252 kHz. RNI was noted April 11th & 25th with poor/fair signals. A better signal was

heard May 23rd when conditions weren't bad at all. The station certainly puts out a decent programming with many oldies but also radio news. Address is (1). In FRSGDX 122 we made mention of the station leaving the airwaves only after a few minutes during the March 21st broadcast. In the mean time we know the reason: the tape snapped: the nightmare of any mobile station OP.

LIVE WIRE RADIO is not very active. The reason is that Bill Lewis has to be careful not to annoy one of his neighbours. Daytime programming is almost non-existent unless the broadcast is from a mobile site. The late evening and nightly hours are more favourable. Sun May 2nd LWR was on 6211 with a 60 minute broadcast. Address is 30 Pinewood, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin in Ireland.

For us the CHRISTIAN PIRATE BROADCASTING NETWORK is a bit of a mystery although we have suspicions. Who can supply us some more info regarding this station? March 27th the station was noted on 3910 at 22.16 UTC with a fair signal. Sun May 2nd CPBN was on 7415. Address is (6). Perhaps there's a link with another 76 mb broadcaster?

STAR CLUB RADIO made a surprise return on SW April 25th on 6200 with a real strong signal. Apparently this was a relay via the Radio Orang Utan transmitter because when taking a closer look to the frequency, the signal was exactly logged on 6200.6 kHz and that's Orang Utan's frequency. Last year SCR was raided by the German postal authorities. Perhaps someone from SCR can give us some more info about the future plans? Address is (1).

Sunday May 23rd a station operating on 6238.5 kHz attracted our attention. The station put out a loop tape which was noted from the early morning till late in the afternoon. A fair/good signal was received on the continent. Rather unusual music was aired: semi classical music, instrumental tunes regularly interspersed by a female voice (with too much ech) announcing that this was the BELGIAN RADIO RELAY SERVICE offering relay facilities. The address which was announced was (5). We are uncertain who's behind this pro-

ject. We are even unsure whether the name is correct as it was very difficult to determine with all that echo being used. Hopefully more detailed info next time.

WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO carried out numerous trms in recent months. April 17th a joint nighttime px was aired on 1509//3910. In the studio Jack, Bill (LWR) and the Radio Gloria OP. Sun May 2nd Radio London was relayed on 3933 with a strong signal. For the rest of activities take a look in the FRS Logbook. Jack Russell took also part in setting up the RSI 76 mb tx in Ireland. Address is (2).

**Weekend
Music
Radio**
*Scottlands
Only I W
Pirate*

RADIO WITHOUT BORDERS INT. was noted on a handful of Saturdays on 76 metres. Most trms were to be heard in the 3905- 3920 range. There seems to be some difficulties with a fellow Russian pirate station called Radio 75. For this and other RWBI we refer to Artion's column provided his letter reaches us in time! Sister-station ROMANTIC SPACE RADIO was broadcasting on 3912 May 2nd. Address RWBI is Box 29, Moscow 109444 in Russia. The same address applies to RSR.

RADIO PAMELA from the UK is currently using 4764 which indeed is very special as no other stations are to be heard in this part of the SW bands. April 11th and 17th saw two tests with strong UK signals. Address is Box 2425, 119 Anaheim, CA 92814-14895, USA.

SUBTERRANEAN SOUNDS returned on 48 metres BH Mon May 3rd on 6290 with a good signal in the UK. Nowadays the station is almost fully concentrating on 76 metres where most of the time a fixed frequency of 3905 is being used. Several 76

<FRS GOES DX> the magazine for the free radio enthusiast

metre broadcasts were logged with fair/good signals (see log book). According to Free DX Sat April 3rd a 9990 broadcast was made in the nightly hours (early Sun morning). Address is (3).

Back to Holland where **RADIO STAR** made its 2nd regular SW broadcast Sun April 11th on 6211. Some 70W of power were used and signal quality was fair. Address is Box 51, 1777ZH Hippolytushoef in the Holland.

SW NEWS IN BRIEF

NYTROZONE has been testing on a new frequency: 6286. Perhaps the start of more activity? Address is (4) *** Remember that spoof station **NOT RADIO FAX?** It seems the station was on air on 3910 April 1st. A joke or...? No, it was not Radio Fax!! *** Dutch station **RADIO PLUTO** pops up on 3932 so now and then. Sun May 9th Pluto was on 6269 with a strong signal despite the low powered tx. Address is Box 103, 8120 AC Olst *** **CRAZY WAVE RADIO** loses its relay facility in Northern Ireland. That means CWR is depending on good old RMI in France. Address is (1) *** We were informed that **CLANDESTINE RADIO SOCIETY's** Mikel Air went to France Sat May 15th with the intention to sort out a number of problems. Perhaps CRS will return with more regular broadcasts on 6527? Address is (1) *** **EMERALD RADIO** is rather inactive. For several weeks now nothing has been heard on 6268 & 6855 *** According to David of Pirate Chat **RADIO FREE BRITAIN** is the same station as the Voice of Free Britain. What's in a name... *** **RADIO BRIGITTE** has been noted on 7545 outside the usual 41 mb frequency range *** **STATION SIERRA SIERRA** made its first 1993 broadcasts BH Mon May 3th on 6206 with a fair signal *** **CLOC** was heard on 7294 kHz (via Radio Europe?) April 11th. We don not know anything about future plans *** **RADIO ADELANTÉ** was heard on 3920 kHz April 24th. Signal quality was poor/fair *** **RADIO USA**, the station which is celebrating its 10th birthday, was heard in poor quality at 22.00 UTC April 24th on 14430 kHz *** **RADIO ALBATROSS** is a Dutch medium wave station and gave it a try on SW April 10th. Frequency was 6207. Write to the Dorman Rd address (see MW news) *** **DLR** wasn't heard on 6226 in the second half of May. And that's an godsend for JRR! *** Three Dutch

stations were logged on 6555 Easter Sun: **PLUTO**, **SANTANA** & **RADIO X**. All produced good signals *** **RADIO ARMADILLO** made a test broadcast BH Mon May 3rd on 6292. Signal-strength was fair. A low-powered tx is in use but when using a good site and a good aerial even small txs can put out solid signals! **RADIO FUSION** remains one of the more active stations with 3.9 MHz and 7.4 MHz trms. The latter frequency is in use on Sun mornings, 3.9 MHz for the stations' night-time (Sat night) activity *** **FRS LONDON** remains a bit of a mysterious station. FRS L has been heard on 6255 & 6265 during several occasions (also weekdays) putting out non-stop music, jingles and archive recordings. Signal-strength in the UK is good. No address is available. Obviously the person behind the station isn't interested in reports and letters ***

AND FINALLY...

Just before going to the printer we got some final newitems which could be of interest!

RADIO TITANIC INT., the longest serving German SW free radio station, is still alive and kicking. Via RTI's Tim Cooper we received the station's news release no.1 (April 1993) in which it is announced that soon an information booklet will be available with updated news and a brandnew

computerized lay-out. Knowing some of the RTI people we can only say: drop them a line and get yourself a copy of that booklet as soon as it is out. Keep an eye on RTI as the 1993 Summer could see a few 48 and/or 19 mb trms. The station also has its own QSL cards which look terrific! The address to write to is (1).

Not a specific pirate item: **RADIO NETHERLAND's MEDIA NETWORK** is a reminder to all those who are interested in the latest developments in the media world. Interesting to know is that on the Thursday show the free radio news is given a stronger splash following the reappearance of John Campbell after a long absence away from the station.

RADIO AURA was heard on 6258 Sun May 30th commencing at 09.00 UTC. A 60 minute talk based show featuring Herbie the Fish & a Bulgarian man called Christov was being aired twice. Aura stands for **American University Radio** and the station was claiming this broadcast was the first-ever Bulgarian SW pirate. It was also said the actual broadcast came from Bulgaria! The address is Radio Aura, American University, Sofia, Bulgaria 2700. Apart from the permanent SW crew special thanks to Gouran Poulsen, Nick Sharpe, Francis Mougenez, JRR & Radio Atlantis!!

RADIO MARABU SUMMER '93 SCHEDULE

EUROWIDE ON THE INTERNATIONAL SHORTWAVE BANDS

Every first sunday each month	Every second saturday each month	Every second sunday each month	Every third sunday each month	Every fourth sunday each month
0800-0900 UTC ON 7294		0800-0900 UTC ON 7294 UTC	0800-0900 UTC ON 7294	0800-0900 UTC ON 7294KHZ
1000-1100 UTC ON 6230 KHZ			1000-1100 UTC ON 6230KHZ	
0800 - 1200 UTC ON 6240 KHZ	1800 - 2200 UTC ON 6240 KHZ	0800 - 1200 UTC ON 7484 KHZ		UTC 2400h/ 24732

SUMMER TRANSMISSION SCHEDULE
(28.3.93 - 16.9.93)

THE SHORT WAVE ADDRESSES:

- 1 = P.O.Box 220342/ DW-5600 WUPPERTAL 22/ Germany
- 2 = 14 Stone Row/ COLERAINE/ Co. Londonderry BT52 1EP/ Northern Ireland
- 3 = 32 Victoria Road/ SALISBURY/ Wiltshire SP1 3NG/ England
- 4 = P.O.Box 130/ 292504 RUEIL Cedex/ France
- 5 = P.O.Box 1218/ CHELMSFORD/ Essex CM1 4BD/ England
- 6 = c/o Stefan Printz/ Kamnarsvagen 13D:220/ 22646 LUND/ Sweden

NEWS FROM AROUND THE



For a change this time a combined FRS Satellite Telex and News from around the World section.

BUZZ FM

Remember **BUZZ FM**, the birmingham based station which was bought for £1 by former Nova boss Chris Cary? The FM signal was to be heard on one of Sky Sports' audio subcarriers to show advertisers how the station sounds (FRW).

UCB ON AIR NOW

United Christian Broadcasting was involved in a last minute battle with fellow Astra broadcaster QEFM over the Sky Sports 7.56 MHz audio subcarrier. This audio channel used to carry the Euronet signal. QEFM wanted the subcarrier on Sky Sports for its new Country Music Radio service which now was launched May 3rd using the 7.38 MHz subcarrier of Sky News.

April 29th saw Britain's first Christian radio station taking to the air with a much delayed launch of UCB. The station is based in Stoke-on-Trent. Seventeen people work full-time on the station, another 8 do a part-time job.

Q-CMR BEGINS

Although Q-CMR (Quality Country Music Radio) was due to start May 3rd, engineers completed the station three days earlier. Friday April 29th tests began on Astra's Sky News on the 7.38 MHz audio subcarrier. Station-manager is Lee Williams. Heralded as Europe's first 24 hours a day country music station, it took 12 months to set up the station and take to the air. Q-CMR will provide live programming between 12 noon and midnight from the former Nova studio complex in Camberley. The other 12 hours are filled with the audio output of Country Music TV. It has been suggested that QEFM would split up its stereo service into two separate mono services, one for QEFM and the other for Q-CMR. These reports are untrue.

RTL RADIO: ONE YEAR

Saturday May 1st saw the first birthday of the adult orientated 24 hour classic rock broadcaster RTL. Several special programmes were aired including competitions, listeners' congratu-

tulations etc. If you'd like to know more about RTL's figures (and those of other satellite broadcasters, then take a look in Made in Holland!!). If you love rock sounds from the 70s, then we have a good tip: every Sunday afternoon between 14.00- 16.00 RTL features the best rock songs of the 1970- 1980 era. The programme called 'Club 70' is presented by Bart van Gogh. Perhaps this name sounds familiar to jingle fanatics: Bart was involved with Dutch jingle company Top Format Productions in Haarlem. Another interesting RTL Radio programme is broadcasted every Wednesday evening from 19.00- 20.00 hours. In this programme the music of one particular artist/group is featured.

WILL EURONET RETURN?

It is now suggested Chris England's Euronet, the station which ceased transmission back in March, will be back November 1st via the Astra 1C satellite. Fact is there's enough room for new radio stations on the latest Astra baby. Many radio enthusiasts would be very glad to see the return of programmes such as 'Radio Days', 'Tendertrip', 'Communicate' and 'Satellite Watch'. The latter programme presented by Eric Wilsher of TESUG (The European Satellite Radio User Group) is now on QEFM every Saturday. One of the major obstacles for Euronet was the lack of advertising. It will be very important to attract advertisers. Another possibility is programme sponsoring. Only then Euronet will be able to survive. According to reports a team is pulling the strings making sure Euronet will be able to return with a solid financial backing. Of course any developments will be reported in FRS Satellite Telex!

DIGITAL EXPRESS

A new digital service is now available for Europeans. The American New Musical Digital Express service consists of 30 channels in perfect digital quality. The service is not aimed at private dish owners but at cable operators across Europe. The service is run by US company Scientific Atlanta and is downlinked from the Intelsat 601 27.5 degrees west satellite. Among the music formats being offered are five rock and another five

AOR channels. Private dish users must wait till the middle of 1994. Then direct to home broadcasting via the Astra is planned!

LOVE RADIO

Since May Love Radio is not anymore on the Astra satellite. The station is now broadcasting digitally and can't be received by any people having their own private satellite equipment. To receive Love Radio one needs a very special receiver which is not available on the consumers market! Receivers are only available to cable operators. More than a year ago- in issue 116/117 we reported about a new digital technology for stereo radio satellite transmissions having the advantage of a better audio quality whereas the costs are significantly less. The new technology is used by the Dutch PTT Telecom and any of the Dutch users are offered a number of extra facilities such as back up facilities, an independent uplink, encoded broadcasts etc. The new digital system is aired via a transponder on the Eutelsat II F-3 satellite. The first Dutch station using the new Single Channel Per Carrier technology was Radio Noordzee Nationaal. Right from its start this Dutch commercial satellite radio station was only to be heard via the Dutch cable networks. SCPC is already widely used in the USA and Africa. Fact is that more stations- Sky Radio and Radio 10 Gold for example- are intending to make a switch to SCPC. For the individual owner of a dish this is an unwanted development. A solution is to buy a special receiver which is A) not obtainable for the time being and B) will be very expensive in case it will be put on the consumer market. SCPC is a technology which clearly differs from Alcatel (used to provide digital radio in France) and DSR (used in Germany).

MELLOW 1557: NEW OWNER

The IIR station Mellow AM 1557 has been sold to a consortium headed by David Cocks. Mellow has a potential of some 150,000 listeners but because the station is situated near the sea making it possible that many people outside the target area can tune in to 1557 AM (FRW). □

VIRGIN 1215

AT LONG LAST RICHARD BRANSON'S 25 YEAR WISH FOR A NATIONAL ROCK STATION BECAME REALITY. HIS 'BABY', VIRGIN 1215 STARTED OFFICIAL TRANSMISSIONS ON FRIDAY APRIL 30TH AT 12.15 PM BST AMIDST A BLAZE OF PUBLICITY AND A BIT OF CONTROVERSY. SOME £ 12 MILLION WERE SPENT ON ITS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN ACCORDING TO THE NEW STATION. THE STATION HAD ONLY JUST BEGUN WHEN RICHARD BRANSON OPENLY ANNOUNCED THAT VIRGIN WAS UNHAPPY WITH ITS AM OUTLETS. FM IS WHAT VIRGIN DESERVES. IS THIS THE BEGINNING OF A BATTLE BETWEEN VIRGIN AND RADIO ONE? THE 'FRS GOES DX' INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT REPORTS...

THE TEST PERIOD

March 5th tests began followed by official full tests as from April 1st onwards when the non-stop rock music diet was interspersed by live announcements including info on px plans. Virgin 1215s test period was extraordinary long but no doubt this was done deliberately to give the station as much pre-publicity as possible. People regularly tuning their way to 1215 on the AM dial must have been noticing two slogans which played an important role in Virgin's campaign to make as many people as possible aware of the kind of radio service Virgin would be providing: "The Radio Revolution" and "Much More Music".

SATELLITE BONUS

Thursday April 1st Virgin's AM tests were also to be heard on the 7.74 MHz audio subcarrier of the MTV transponder on channel 22 of the Astra satellite. Certainly a surprise bonus for the satellite radio fans! The satellite tests were originally set up to enable testing of the optimod equipment at the various Virgin transmitters across the UK. These tests were scheduled to last for only one month. Saturday May 1st Virgin sadly disappeared from the satellite airwaves. Negotiations are taking place to lease an audio subcarrier on a transponder on Astra 1C.

APRIL 30th: THE START

The day started very early for Virgin boss Richard Branson. He was going to bring visits to 7 different towns by helicopter. In each town 1215 balloons were launched. Aim was to collect money for the homeless. Each balloon was sponsored by a local body or individual. At 7 in the morning the first balloons took

off in Edinburgh, Scotland followed by Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Cardiff and London.

Despite the controversy, 1215 on the 30th April saw Britain big welcoming its 2nd commercial radio station on the air with a blaze of publicity. The latter not only refers at Branson's 'Tour de Helicopter' but also at a number of statements made by him prior to Virgin's start (see later on in this feature). Just before 12.15 pm BST a tape was played with the regular ticking of a clock. This was regularly interspersed by the dark-brown voice of Tommy Vance who was counting down. "Thirty seconds enounting to the Radio Revolution, 30 seconds enounting to the official launch of Virgin 1215. This was followed by the sound of a heart beat. Then, at 12.15, there were a few seconds of silence followed by the voice of Richard Branson standing in front of the Virgin Megastore in Manchester:

|||||

"Hello to everyone here in Manchester and across the UK. it's 12.15 on Friday April 30th 1993, a date which will go down, we hope, in broadcasting history. I'm Richard Branson and this is the radio station I have always wanted to hear. I hope you will find it the station you too have always wanted to hear. Virgin 1215 is now officially on the air."

|||||

Then the station kicked off with two world exclusives, a cover version of Steppenwolf's 'Born to be wild' by Inxs recorded specially for the station's launch and the Cure's interpretation of Jimmy Hendrix's 'Purple Haze', presented by joint programme director Richard Skinner. A new era in British radio had begun.

That memorable Friday and rest of the weekend the airwaves were filled with 1215 All Time Rock Tracks being played in alphabetical order. The first record of this fantastic list of records was 'A day in life' by the Beatles. Richard Skinner recalled it was the last record being played on Big L back in August 1967. Those having their private satellite equipment could benefit from sparkling high quality audio. Others had to rely on good old AM. Continental listeners have a very strong signal during evening and nightly hours on 1215 kHz AM.



Virgin boss Richard Branson

DEEJAY LINE UP.

In issue 122 we published a list with the names of the deejays hosting the Virgin 1215 programming. Eversince a few names have been added. In April it was announced that Tommy 'What a Guy' Rivers joined up with the already known names. Of course we all know Tommy from his Laser 558 period aboard the MV Communicator. After his Laser career Tommy became UK correspondent for press agency UPI. Another former offshore radio personality, Caroline Overdrive man Tom Anderson, was approached to present a specialist music show. Tom is happy with his current job at the French Riviera and for the time being he will stay in Southern France hosting shows on Radio Riviera. Talking of presenters: Virgin received more than thousand demo tapes from deejays hoping to find a job on the Radio Revolution. One of them was 60s popsinger/composer

Jonathan King ("Everyone's gone to the moon"). Chris Evans who left 1FM (Radio One) is one of the top deejays on Virgin.

MUSIC POLICY

Virgin's output is aimed at people who are too old to put up with the banalities of chart music and too young to be put out to pasture on the golden oldies. In other words: the station is targeting the 24-45 year olds with quality rock music. Among standard songs from established names such as Cream, Pretenders, U2, Doors, Inxs etc. you will also hear less known album tracks and new talented rock artists. Fact is the choice of music is taken very seriously by those responsible for the music format. Virgin calls itself a rock rather than a pop station and its commitment to music is absolute. The station plays timeless music but is NOT an oldies station. Music comes first, not the speech because Virgin 1215 stands for Much More Music.

THE AM NETWORK

The Virgin network of AM transmitters has grown in April and the station is currently running over 30 txs on 4 different frequencies. The list will grow to 41 when the full Virgin tx line-up is operational. The period of tests began from Washford, Somerset Fri March 5th for the purposes of final transmitter adjustments at the site. The programme for these tests was generated locally, via a tape player. Trms from Washford were ceased at around 09.30 am on Mon March 8th, in order for full engineering tests to begin later that day. At exactly 12.15pm on Mon March 8th, engineering test trms commenced from Brookhams Park, the tx serving London and parts of the South East. Several other txs were switched on in the course of March. The network as a whole is based on that formerly occupied by BBC Radio 3. However, Virgin have installed new state-of-the-art Harris DX50 txs at Brookhams Park, Washford and Droitwich. Moorside Edge has two new DX50 units (running in parallel) and Lisnagarvey has been equipped with a new Harris DX10 tx.

Finally: Virgin have also the facility of an extra frequency of 1233 kHz from a transmitting site at Swindon.

The Virgin signal is also benefiting from the use of Optimod audio processing equipment. At each individual tx site, a unit has been installed, providing Virgin with the ability to "fine tune" each and every tx for optimum performance. In addition, the Optimod units have been customised to provide brighter audio quality.

Virgin 1215 will be radiating in excess of 700 kW, making it one of the most powerful commercial radio stations in the world!

RADIO BATTLE STARTED?

No doubt a battle has started between Radio One and Virgin 1215. But also other stations such as Atlantic 252 are involved. And let's be honest: it's good to see some serious competition. Radio One has always had the advantage of having national coverage whereas others could only cover a relatively small area. Now there is a station putting out popular music and having national coverage too. Virgin will offer people a choice. In the past, people have had to tune into BBC Radio One FM for all their (pop) music. Now as people get past their teens, they will perhaps listen to Virgin.

If Virgin takes away 1FM listeners, it will probably be some of the older ones rather than the youngsters. Listeners who have grown up with Radio One are now in their 30s, 40s or even 50s. Although Virgin is the first real rival for BBC Radio One, BBC executives don't appear too concerned of some of their older listeners fail to turn on and tune in. A poll was carried out by Gallup and it appears that Radio One has a very loyal audience in Great Britain. Virgin has to compete against a station making use of a FM network. Most pop radio listeners say they tune in on the FM dial with its superior sound quality and stereo facility. Furthermore: the poll finds that 8 in 10 music listeners use FM. In Greater London this rises to 9 in 10! More people even tune in to pop on long wave than on medium wave (Atlantic 252 is responsible for this). Some other disappointing news for Virgin- and this is also a result of the poll- when listeners were asked which kind of music would attract

TRANSMITTING STATION	COUNTY	FREQ (kHz)	RADIATED POWER (kW)
BRIGHTON	Sussex	1215	1.1
BROOKMANS PK	Herts	1215	125.0*
CHELTENHAM	Glos	1197	1.0
CHESTERTON FEN	Cambs	1197	0.2
DARTFORD TUNNEL	Kent	1215	0.004
DROITWICH	Worcs	1215	105.0*
DUNDEE	Scotland	1242	1.0
FAREHAM	Hants	1215	1.3
FERN BARROW	Dorset	1197	0.5
HULL	H/side	1215	0.3
HOO	Kent	1197	2.0
KINGS HEATH	Northants	1197	0.5
LISNAGARVEY	N Ireland	1215	16.0
MANNINGTREE	Essex	1224	0.5
MOORSIDE EDGE	Yorks	1215	250.0*
OXFORD	Oxon	1197	0.5
PLYMOUTH	Devon	1215	1.1
POSTWICK	Norfolk	1215	1.2
REDMOSS	Grampian	1215	2.3
SHEFFIELD	Yorks	1242	1.0
STOCKTON	Cleveland	1242	1.0
TORBAY	Devon	1197	1.0
TROWELL	Notts	1197	1.0
WALLASEY	Merseyside	1197	2.0
WASHFORD	Somerset	1215	100.0
WESTERGLLEN	Scotland	1215	100.0*
WREKENTON	Tyne & Wear	1215	2.2

<FRS GOES DX> the magazine for the free radio enthusiast

them to a new station, only 1 in 8 selected album rock, the backbone of Virgin 1215.

The arrival of a full time rock/album orientated national service has led to a change of programming from some of Virgin's rivals. Radio One have now introduced a weekly album chart show which now follows their Top 40 singles charts on Sunday evenings and Capital Radio have also added a regular album chart spot to their line-up.

Finally some comments. BBC Radio One jock Simon Bates: "we are not at all concerned about the arrival of Virgin on Britain's airwaves. We have 19 million listeners and be sure it will be an enormous job for Virgin to attract say an audience of 4 million. I think we will remain the biggest and most popular station in the country. Besides: we love rivalry. The more radio stations, the better it will be because it helps the listener to decide which kind of music and station he/she will chose."

the station was unhappy about the allocation of AM frequencies for their service. Branson stated that he felt the government should allocate Virgin FM frequencies in the near future. Branson said he would be talking to BBC's director general John Birt about the possibility of swapping his station's AM slot with the BBC's news/talk Radio 4 national network spot on the FM dial. Branson: "it's going to be much tougher for us being on AM. To me it seems strange that a station playing such good music is not able to do it on FM for listeners who are used to hearing music of the high quality sound produced by CDs. We should have something like Radio 4s frequencies. They have talk shows and don't need an FM frequency." He contends that Radio 4 would



ADVERTISING

A £2 million advertising sponsorship by contract with Nescafé, the biggest in British radio history, has got the station's advertising revenue campaign off to a good start. Also Royal Mail will be advertising on 1215. Virgin secured a £700,000 deal with a Canadian company who will sponsor Virgin's weekly album charts show which goes out between 4-7pm BST Sunday afternoons. More shows including Chris Evans' Sunday morning show 'Big Red Mug Show' are being sponsored.

Virgin 1215 AM's First Hour

<i>Born To Be Wild</i>	INXS
<i>Purple Haze</i>	The Cure
<i>A Day In The Life</i>	The Beatles
<i>A Hard Rain's Gonna Fall</i>	Bob Dylan
<i>A Kind Of Magic</i>	Queen
<i>A New Flame</i>	Simply Red
<i>A Sort Of Homecoming</i>	U2
<i>Abacab</i>	Genesis
<i>Abacadabra</i>	Steve Miller Band
<i>Accidents Will Happen</i>	Elvis Costello
<i>Across The Universe</i>	The Beatles

Same Hour On BBC Radio 1

<i>Fever</i>	Madonna
<i>That's The Way Love Goes</i>	Janet Jackson
<i>Shout</i>	Louie Lou
<i>The Proud One</i>	The Osmonds
<i>Smells Like Teen Spirit</i>	Nirvana
<i>Two Princes</i>	The Spin Doctors
<i>Oh Carolina!</i>	Shaggy
<i>Tennessee</i>	Arrested Development
<i>I Hate Everything About You</i>	Ugly Kid Joe
<i>Ain't No Love</i>	Sub Sub
<i>Blue Hotel</i>	Chris Isaak

Virgin's Breakfast presenter Chris Evans: "Most BBC jocks are too long on the station. Young and talented people do not get a chance although the BBC aims at a younger audience than Virgin. Radio One has one problem: the station doesn't need to make profits. There is no pressure to make a good product."

"VIRGIN BOSS BRANSON: WE WANT TO BE ON FM!"

The high quality provided by the satellite service highlights an arena of controversy for the station. Station owner Richard Branson made several public statements in the run up to the station's opening regarding the fact the fact

benefit from a possible swap because AM reaches more parts of the UK than FM, while Virgin on FM would mean clearer reception for listeners. "Radio 4 would be much happier on our wavelength and we would be much happier on theirs", he adds. The Radio Authority is 'sympathetic' to Branson's effort, maintaining that the imbalance of national FM frequencies, 4:1 in favour of the BBC, must be redressed by the government. Richard Branson's statements brought a strong reply from the government. The long and the short of that reply was that Branson knew that an AM licence was being offered and if his group were not interested in providing this service, they should not have apply for it

AND FINALLY....

We found an interesting article about Virgin 1215 in the Daily Telegraph, dated May 4th. Journalist Tony Parsons assessed the first days of Virgin and found a station on the right track but the wrong wavelength. Quoting him: "More than anything else on air, Virgin 1215 AM reminds me of the radio stations that made me fall in love with pop music in the first place. Virgin's obsession with great records conjures up visions of the Sixties pirate stations, Radio London and Radio Caroline, which were driven from the airwaves over 25 years ago by Government legislation and replaced by radio One. Virgin has exactly the commitment to music which Caroline and London had and which Radio One so conspicuously lacks. We baby boomers have waited a long time, but Virgin could well turn out to be the revenge of the pirates. □"

This comprehensive FRS DX Virgin 1215 feature came about with the great help of: RBL's The Radio Tape, Herbert Visser, Hans Knot, Nicholas Sharpe & Morris Walker. Research/lay-out: P.V.

Photo right on top: Virgin's senior presenter Tommy Vance

SOUNDS from OFFSHORE

In contrast with the previous Sounds from Offshore, this time a more interesting column covering the events surrounding Caroline's 29th Birthday celebrations, the current on air activities, news about the good ship Ross Revenge, a look at Radio Caroline's future, an in-depth feature on Europe's newest Offshore Radio broadcaster off the Yugoslavian coast, a brief news-item about the proposed USA offshore project and news about an almost forgotten (??) vessel, the MV Communicator still being moored near Lisbon, Portugal.

Apart from all this, we have an exclusive interview with Caroline station-manager Peter Moore. This interview is being published outside this Sounds from Offshore column.

RADIO CAROLINE NEWS

By now Caroline is 29 years old and the birthday didn't go by unnoted!! In the mean time most of the equipment which was regained February 19th when Dutch authorities returned the confiscated equipment from the August 1989 raid (see issue 122) is being reinstalled on the Ross Revenge. As a result of the February 19th happenings, Caroline's record collection has become rather impressive. The current record library doesn't provide enough room storing the thousands of albums... Part of the collection has moved to a alternative place on the ship.

As far as we know the transmitting gear hasn't been built in. All is stored in large crates awaiting further steps from the Caroline people. Peter Chicago is prepared to rebuild the transmitting equipment provided there's some sort of serious reason...

CAROLINE'S 29th BIRTHDAY

April saw Britain's oldest commercial radio station celebrating its 29th birthday by producing a documentary covering the station's history and by becoming an offshore broadcaster once again. Caroline took to the air over the Easter weekend with special broadcasts from Calais in

France and the Isle of Man thus becoming an offshore broadcaster once again.

Manx Radio, the Isle of Man's

commercial radio station broadcasted the Caroline history documentary to celebrate the station's birthday. It also commemorated the close ties between the Manx islanders and Caroline which date back to the days when the old Caroline North ship was anchored off the island back in the mid 1960s. The Caroline documentary featured Peter Moore and Johnny RRRRReece (this isn't a typing error) with a look back at Caroline's 29 years on the air. The recent links between Caroline and Manx Radio may also herald the start of even closer links between the two stations. More about this item elsewhere. Easter Sun saw Caroline taking over the output of Calais based FM station Radio Seize (=6) on Easter Sunday when 11 hours of Caroline programming hit the airwaves. Programmes began with the Caroline documentary and featured presenters Steve Masters, Scotchman Johnny Reece, Barry Lewis & Bongo.

Caroline also celebrated its birthday on SW with its regular 48 metres/6295 kHz weekend output from the Irish Republic. Not many legal British stations paid attention to Caroline's birthday. One station which did is WGMS in Kent. WGMS stands for World Greatest Music Station.

CURRENT CAROLINE ON AIR ACTIVITIES

On short wave Radio Caroline is to be heard on 6295 from a 1 kW transmitter, located in Waterford, Southern Ireland. Trms are being aired most (all) weekends and on a few special events such as Bank Holidays. Since last issue, not one single Sunday was missing on 6295 proving things are going rather smoothly at present time. As far as we know Caroline is still intending to open a second SW outlet on the 76 mb around 3936 kHz. The 3936 kHz outlet has already been used proving the transmitter is on the location. However: a regular 76 mb service hasn't been noted yet and we can only guess why that's the case. Perhaps technical reasons?? As soon as 3.9 MHz will be introduced as a fixed service, it will be running in parallel with the 6295 service. In the evening hours and overnight 3.9 MHz could offer excellent signals in Great Britain but also on the European continent. Peter

Moore is very happy about the listener's response to the SW broadcasts. There is a plan to up power on 48 metres. So far reception reports poured in from all corners of the world including Brasilia, the USA, Africa, Australia and Japan!! In average some 30 to 40 letters are being received on a weekly basis.

April saw the return of a familiar voice on Caroline. With the re-introduction of Roy Master's Foundation of Human Understanding on Sunday mornings, religious programming is back as part of Caroline's SW output. Address is FHU Europe, Wellings House, 46 Avondale Drive, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 3PN England. Relaying Roy Masters' pxs via Caroline's SW outlet means some extra finances for the station. There are rumours that well-known Dutch evangelist Johan Maasbach is once again trying to use Caroline as an outlet for his religious speech based programming. Johan Maasbach was one of the main World Mission Radio broadcasters some years ago when religious programming went out on 6215 kHz SW from the Ross Revenge. An Independent Music Company is interested in leasing airtime on 6295 and there have already been talks. And finally we mention a charitable organisation which will get airtime for next to nothing because of its humanity.

As far as satellite activities are concerned there's not much to be reported. The weekday programming continues between 9-11 pm via the Intelsat satellite making use of free airtime offered via Dutchman Henk de Jong who's in charge of R.N.I., the Norwegian satellite broadcaster. More R.N.I. news in FRS Satellite Telex.

AND WHAT ABOUT THE ROSS REVENGE??

Despite all on air activity recently, the future of the Ross Revenge remains uncertain. The good news is that funds have been found to pay the boat's harbour fees to this day and any threat of repossession by the Dutch Harbour Board has now disappeared.

Talking of the ship itself, the entire electric wiring system needs to be replaced, a giant job for the Caroline engineering team.

According to Peter Moore the

Ross is currently in a good condition. Easter Sunday the engines were started up (when was the last time they had been running??) after repairs were carried out. Several tests followed the Easter try-out. It seems everything was going as they hoped. Another major job was the repair of the ship's screw propeller. The latter was seriously damaged when the Ross ran aground December 1991. A person playing an important role with regard to major repairs on the ship is Ernie Stevenson. At the time the Ross still was serving as a trawler, Ernie was engineer and also in the 1980s he was so now and then active on 'his' Ross Revenge. Caroline has saved an amount of money to hire Ernie for at least 7 days repairing the steering-gear and to instruct Caroline

authorities very much like to see the Ross leaving its spot. Peter Moore set himself up as the ship's responsible person to the Dutch authorities at the time the equipment was returned. This implies he could be arrested in case the Ross would be positioned somewhere in the North Sea.

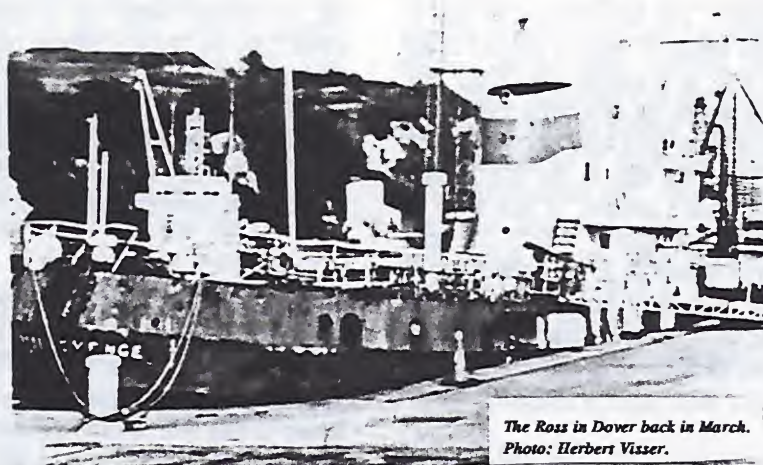
CAROLINE'S BROADCASTING FUTURE

Several options have been mentioned securing Caroline's broadcasting future. However, most of them seem to be unfeasible and thus cannot be taken seriously. One is for instance towing the ship to a position off the Dutch coast seeing a cooperation between Caroline and a local Dutch station. And then once again satellite plans: it would be fantastic reaching all anoraks who have their own satellite

However, it seems those days are gone for ever and as a result several transmitters are currently unused. There would be ideal possibilities using relatively high powered SW transmitting equipment. One of the key-figures in this story is once again former Radio Monique jock Herbert Visser. Once again because he also played an important role in the negotiations between the Caroline organisation and the Dutch authorities concerning the restitution of seized equipment. Herbert has been visiting Bulgaria a few times in recent months and now has good connections in certain circles from which Caroline could benefit.

As for the foreseeable future we can reveal that Caroline hopes another 28 day special event licence will be granted by the Radio Authority. The hope is that this licence will take effect sometime in August. At the same time, the Ross is hoped to be moved to a new position which has been offered free of harbour fees. The licence which Caroline applied for is aimed at the same area the Ross is hoped to be moved to: Essex. If everything turns out to be o.k., Caroline could make quite some money as the listening potential in this new area is far more bigger compared with Chatham and Dover, being the centres of Caroline's previous special event FM services. No doubt many Caroline supporters are living in Essex. The exact new position of the Ross Revenge will be a spot called Waallasey Island in Essex River, near Burnham. From this location Caroline could reach an audience from Southend-on-Sea to the outer limits of London including cities such as Colchester, Basildon and Benfleet. An impressive area to attract attention of various potential advertisers.

Earlier in this column we already reported about Caroline's 29th birthday celebrations on Britain's first independent commercial radio station, Manx Radio. Recent reports in the Manx press have suggested that Caroline founder Ronan O'Rahilly has been negotiating with an Isle of Man organisation about a possible take over of Manx Radio. Ronan O'Rahilly denied any involvement in a take over. According to Peter Moore he was called by a certain Mr. Brian Kreisky some time ago. The latter is owner of a video



The Ross in Dover back in March.
Photo: Herbert Visser.

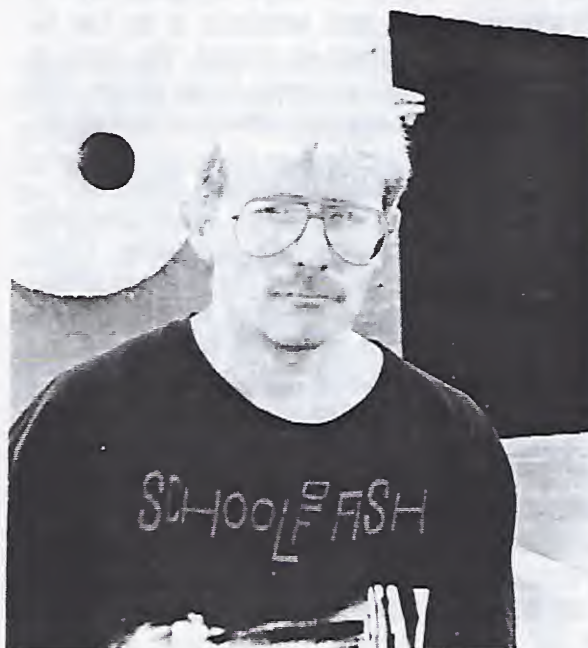
people how to carry out other important repairs taking place in the upcoming months. His help is also badly needed for repairing the cooling system having a serious hole. Ernie was on the Ross early May. The previous time he was on the Ross was back in April 1988, some 5 years ago. Hopefully his helping hand has given the initial impetus to other repairs bringing back the Ross Revenge in a solid condition making it possible to steam under its own power!! Ernie's help is also badly needed. In the mean time the DTI have announced the Ross will be allowed to leave Dover harbour provided the Caroline organisation can prove what its new destination will be. As Caroline's current mooring needs to be made silt free, the

receiving system although Peter Moore admits this won't be the real Caroline. Besides: a 24 hour day-to-day operation, leasing satellite airtime, is only a dream. Negotiations with the BSKyB organisation to lease an audio subcarrier from one of the Sky transponders took place but weren't successful. Caroline cannot afford the money to finance such operation (some £ 90,000/£ 100,000 on an annual basis). Already a few months ago we were informed about the possibility to commence transmissions from Bulgaria. Caroline could get an official licence via Bulgarian authorities. During the Cold war numerous Bulgarian transmitters were being used as jamming stations in the never ending propaganda war between East and West.

frs goes dx

production company specialised in motorcycle racing asking if Caroline was interested in programming via Manx Radio as the station would get a brandnew programming. Manx Radio is partly a private enterprise although part of it is in belonging to the government. Manx owns four different txs, three FM and one AM on 1386 kHz (20 kW). All four txs put out the same programmes. Peter Moore asked Mr. Kreisky to put his thoughts down on paper making it possible to show it to Ronan O'Rahilly. However: Mr. Kreisky's envelope never reached the Caroline mailbox. Peter Moore thinks that Mr. Kreisky's aim is to use the name Caroline for his own commercial purposes and that's something he doesn't want. After contacting Mr. Kreisky once again via the phone, it appeared that the latter only wanted to talk to Ronan O'Rahilly although Peter Moore's efforts trying to convince him that he- Peter Moore- is the only approachable person within the Caroline organisation to negotiate with. When Peter Moore contacted Ronan O'Rahilly about this case, it appeared that (much to Moore's surprise) there had already been contact between Kreisky and O'Rahilly. The latter was very unhappy about a story in a local Manx paper suggesting a deal was concluded between Caroline and Manx Radio concerning the lease of airtime. O'Rahilly wanted a rectification 'cause the report was untrue. There had only been a 3 minute talk between him and Kreisky. Representatives of Manx Radio (having no connections with

Caroline jock Chris Kennedy



Kreisky!) have been visiting the Ross to invest whether it would be possible to use the ship as a tourist attraction. Manx could promote the ship in its programming but Caroline would have to pay the costs of towing the Ross to the isle of Man. Peter Moore's proposal to Manx Radio is that Caroline starts a daily six hour service between 00.00- 06.00 making use of three Manx Radio txs not carrying any programming during the time slot mentioned above. These txs do however put out a dead carrier which could be replaced by Caroli-

ne's signal. In this way Kreisky's plans would be get rounded. Whether Peter Moore's plan will become reality is something we cannot reveal at this stage. But we'll keep you in the picture about any future developments.

TEMPORARY NEW JOB FOR BONGO

Caroline deejay Bongo has been working for a 4 week period on the French Bordeaux based FM station WIT FM. He was asked to present a daily Caroline type show for an average of 120,000 listeners. Bongo has been asked within the scope of WIT

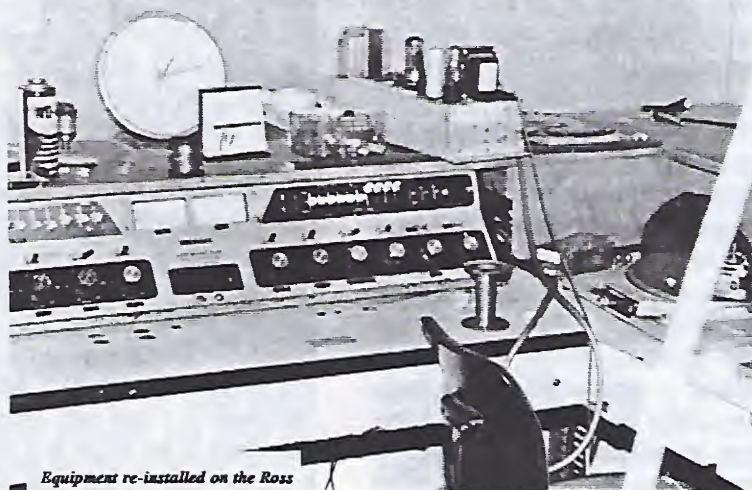
FMs 5th Birthday. Bongo took a thousand albums from the Caroline record library with him to France with the kind permission of Chris Kennedy, being the responsible man aboard the Ross. Bongo has been in France between may 5th and June 3rd and used the name Steve Crawley on air.

MV MI AMIGO

The legendary Caroline vessel Mi Amigo which sank in March 1980 after a final dramatic broadcast, broke into two quite recently. The Port of London Authority intends to move both parts of the wreck to "smooth waters". The ship could then be scrapped. There seem to be people willing to tow the wreck on land, clean it and refurbish it as a museum. Perhaps these people have very good intentions but aren't they a bit too optimistic?? Bringing the two parts back in a good condition would cost a lot of money and will take an enormous time investment.

NEW OFFSHORE VESSEL OFF BARI COAST

Tuesday March 30th (and not April 7th as stated in FRSGDX 122) at 06.55 UTC the French press agency AFP brought the news about a brandnew offshore radio project off the Yugoslavian coast. It must be admitted we first took the news with a pinch of salt (see FRSGDX 122



Equipment re-installed on the Ross

page 15) but ever since we know better....

HOW IT ALL CAME ABOUT

Already in 1992 the idea was born to equip a ship and commence broadcasts off the Yugoslavian coast. Main goal: providing uncensored newsreports to the population from the war-stricken areas.

The ship which was equipped for its broadcasting purpose is a 200 foot (65m) polar research ship bearing the name of the association which chartered it. 'Droit de Parole' ('the right to speak'), is aiming at providing "objective news open to all" to residents of the former Yugoslavia with the hope of combating "disinformation as a weapon of war" and was to depart for its zone of operation, the Adriatic, on Wednesday March 31st or Thursday April 1st. It appears that the ship was fitted out as a floating radio vessel in the Marseille harbour. This happened secretly on quay number 114 in the Basin d'Arcenc. The vessel left Marseille April 1st heading for its new anchorage off Bari. From Marseille the ship had to sail in the Mediterranean southward passing through the most southern part of Italy. Then the voyage continued northward to the Adriatic between Italy's eastcoast and the west-coast of what used to be Yugoslavia.

Already April 8th- this was reported by the French daily Le Monde- trms were commenced on 720 kHz AM (and 90 MHz FM?).

Name of the station: Radio Boat.

It looks like there are links between the current organisation and the one behind the failed Goddess of Democracy project. It also suggested there are contacts with World Friendship Radio, airing broadcasts off the Java (Indonesia) coast (see FRSGDX 121).

REGISTRATION

For the time being the ship will fly the St. Vincent flag but the 'Droit de parole' organisation hopes it will be transferred under French flag.

In the mean time it has become clear that the French government won't allow the organisation to fly the French flag. The latter seems a bit strange knowing it were the same French authorities allowing the organisation to equip the ship on French territory in the Marseille

harbour...

THE MEDIA

Apart from the already mentioned French press agency AFP, news about this unusual offshore venture was also published in 'Politiken', a Danish daily.

April 6th the German/French TV channel Arts showed pictures of the ship when still being moored in the Marseille harbour in Southern France. The TV channel showed pictures of the studios & transmitter room and said the ship would soon commence trms off Bari. Indeed this newsreport was giving correct information. For it was two days later, Fri April 8th, that Radio Boat was on the air.

The popular former East German popmusic station DT64, nowadays on satellite under the name MDR Spoetnik, had an interesting feature on the new offshore broadcaster Fri May 14th at around 20.30 CEST in which also extracts were to be heard.

'Media Network', the weekly communications magazine on Radio Netherlands and presented by Jonathan Marks, reported about Radio Brod (translated this means Radio Boat) April 14th. An extract was played which was recorded by the BBC Monitoring Service in Caversham Park. "This is Radio Boat, this Radio Boat. Dear listeners, good evening, you're listening to our programmes on 720 kHz which is 416 metres. We can also be received on FM 90 MHz". This was followed by newsreports about the situation in Srebrenica.

TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

On the ship is a 30m tall antenna tower and trms on 720 kHz AM are being put out off the Bari coast. It seems there's also a FM outlet operating on 90 MHz. In the course of April trms were commenced and during nighttime when 720 kHz is clear and free from any interference from European stations (for instance WDR Langenberg), the station could be received provided you're using a selective receiver along with an external AM antenna (a loop for instance). The powerful 50 kW AM transmitter must enable the people aboard the ship to cover most of what used to be Yugoslavia. The signal was already received in Western Europe proving the station is really on air!!

MUCH SUPPORT FOR THE PROJECT

In Paris an office was opened using the name 'Association Droit de Response'. People behind this organisation asked for International support and did indeed get a lot of help! Most amazing is the following: the European Commission gave its backing to this venture by granting its subsidies worth one million ecus (the equivalent of FF 7 million or UK£ 1 million). The project is also backed by the France Liberty Association preseeded by Mrs Danielle Mitterand, the wife of the French president Francois Mitterand. Several other organisations/persons are backing the station. To name a few: Unesco's director-general Federico Mayor and the special rapporteur of the UN commission on human rights in the former Yugoslavia, Mr. T. Mazowiecki. The 50 kW transmitter is put at the organisation's disposal by the French government!

PROGRAMME CONTENTS

On the ship there are seven professional journalists from the former Yugoslavia-Serbs, Croats, Slovenes and Bosnians- who are working towards a common goal round the clock relying on a network of local correspondents. A diet of brief newsbulletins, commentaries, reports, interviews, press reviews are the main ingredients interspersed with a wide variety of music. Transmissions are being aired in various languages including (mainly) English and German. Every hour on top of the hour there's a brief newsbulletin. Extended newsreports are put on the air three times a day: in the morning, afternoon and evening hours. Apart from the local reporters, the station is also making use of very reliable sources such as Reuter and AFP. There's a telephone line with the Head Office in Paris for those reporting from the war zones.

Aim is to keep the station on air for a 3 to 7 month period. Last but not least: a British naval ship keeps an eye on the broadcasting vessel protecting her in case it will be necessary.

USA OFFSHORE PROJECT

Already back in February 'FRS Goes DX' reported about a mysterious American offshore project. Ever since no ship has been observed in

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International European waters. However: persistent rumours keep rearing their head, reason for us to publish some new developments. The ship is said to be equipped in Boston harbour and according to certain sources CNN filmed the moment that equipment was put on the ship. The blue/white painted ship should be heading for European waters with two 50 kW AM txs and one 50 kW SW unit. She's registered in a mini state. Some of the people behind station gained already experience with (an) other offshore project(s). On the radio vessel two antenna towers. The ship would be anchored off Dunkirk at a position on which the Communicator dropped anchor for a brief period in 1988 (after Laser Hot Hits 576 went silent). It is said that it concerns the former Marti ship. Radio/TV Marti was an US offshore project putting out political propaganda to Cuba. In fact it was the Voice of America putting out these trms. What will happen next? Do we have to take all with a pinch of salt or is it reality?? Soon we hope to know a bit more.

MV COMMUNICATOR

Ben Bode, Dutchman, he was heavily involved in the prestigious Radio Paradise project back in 1981, reports that no less than 3 different individuals have showed interest in the former Laser radioship. One of them represents Radio One from Israel. The other two names are quite familiar among offshore enthusiasts: Ray Anderson from EAP who bought the ship already in 1986 and Howard Rose alias Chris



The Communicator in Lisbon. One antenna tower is erected.
Photo: Stuart Dobson.

pian St. John alias Jay Jackson. The latter acted as a Voice of Peace representative. Howard used to work on the Peace ship a long time ago. Negotiations between the current owner of the Communicator and the VoP were unsuccessful. Latest reports suggest the ship has been sold to a Danish organisation.

OFFSHORE MISCELLANY

* Some six years ago Hans Knot received a telex from Mebo Ltd in Zuerich, Switzerland, informing him that the MEBO I and MEBO II ships were both on the bottom of the Mediterranean being used as target for

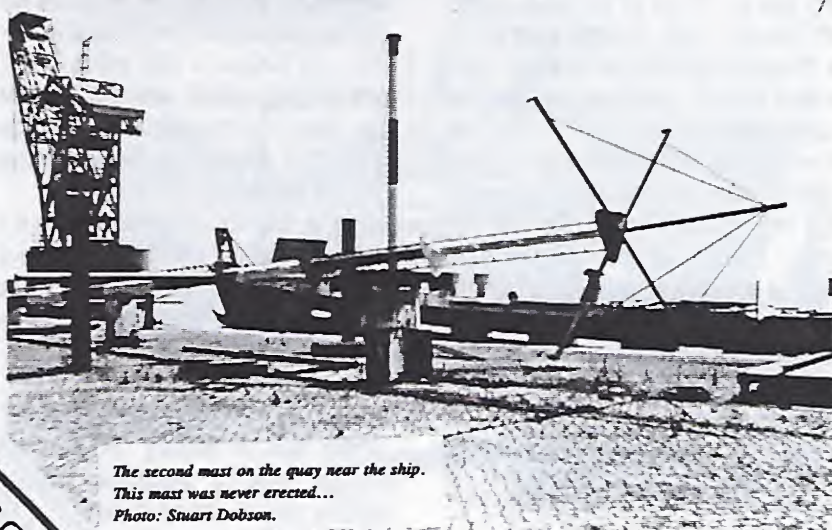
the Libyan airforce. Hans Knot is now doubting whether this really happened. Reason: Captain Harteveld told him that the MEBO II was towed to Malta. Afterwards she lost her anchor and struck the rocks near Limasol.

* A British group of radio enthusiasts intending to obtain a 28 day special event licence and broadcasting from a ship anchored in the vicinity of the Mi Amigo- the former home of Radio Caroline- haven't got a licence up till now. They still hope that they will get permission to have their dream become reality.

* The MV Sarah has been sold! That was the news reaching us by the end of April. In 1987 the Sarah was the home of Radio New York Int. for a brief period. The Sarah was anchored in the Boston harbour. According to Al Weiner all studio and transmitting equipment has been taken off the ship by himself. So obviously the equipment wasn't part of the deal! Talking about Allan Weiner: he's currently writing a book about his experiences and adventures in broadcasting. No doubt this could become a very fascinating book which will be published by Snallygaster Press. As far as we know it will take several months before the book is ready to go to press. As we are hoping to receive a review copy, you'll be informed when the book is out and what the contents is like!! Just wait and see...

* And now for something completely different a warning: never start your own illegal station in an Arabic country. An Arabic radio freak who was caught redhanded while carrying out illegal broadcasts, now misses one hand and a leg.... No more tuning with two hands. Dip, load, dip..

* Paul Rusling who was involved in several offshore projects including Scan Radio, Laser 730 (before it became Laser 558) and the failed Nannell venture was sending out a press bulletin Saturday May 1st in which he declared he was in no way involved in a new offshore venture off the Italian coast. "I haven't advised the new project nor have I been delivering any equipment. I want to emphasize that I have no contacts with people in the USA preparing a new offshore project." What we know is that Rusling is involved in a -mind you- completely legal project. His associate is the former managing-



The second mast on the quay near the ship. This mast was never erected...
Photo: Stuart Dobson.

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MAILBOX 41

Following issue 121 quite a number of letters poured in. Therefore it's time to pay attention to a selection of the mail. Before we start: in this column mail from our readership responding on the new FRSGDX format. In addition some letters which we received following the April 18th broadcast.

The first letter is from Holger Conrad. He lives in Freiburg, once being East German territory. "Thanks for the sample of FRSGDX. It's my first free radio magazine and I was surprised. I like the great number of pages and the variety of subjects. Your SW Survey is excellent. An important thing for me is your easy to understand English which is particularly important to me. I think it's worth while to take a year's subscription. I appreciate your good job." It's nice to know you are now an enthusiastic reader Holger. And no doubt there will be further improvements making this magazine even better in future! Just show some patience...

Bernd Teutsch says: "Although the magazine's subscription price has increased, I very much would like to subscribe for another year. I think your job is worth the money."

Our good friend Martien send us a nice postcard from Ottawa in Canada. "Yesterday I received the renewed FRSGDX. I must say I was pleasantly surprised and impressed about the quality. Only: there were a number of spelling errors." Dear Martien, first of all: welcome back in Holland. Thanks a lot for your positive comments. We will do the best we can to avoid those errors. In most cases it concerns typing errors. Before each page is printed, all text is being checked. And remember Joop ter Zee sometimes loves to use a special kind of English...

Ralf Pokar is one of those loyal FRSH listeners and FRSGDX readers and that for already a long time. "And now I have something to say about Jolly Jake's 'Rambling Thoughts'. In one point he is right. For people who have subscribed to FRSGDX, it is indeed boring to listen to the DX Show because he is right, you read word by word from the magazine. But I think that there are plenty of

listeners who haven't subscribed to FRSGDX. So I still see the point of this show being broadcasted. Nevertheless I think it is out of the question your DX Show is the best one, produced by a pirate station in Europe. Jolly Jake talks about your programming too. I think you know how I judge your shows. My comment to your April 18th broadcast: I think that this was the best show that Stefan Kramer has ever produced for FRSH. It's nice to see he has "grown-up". About the mag: I must point out that especially FRS satellite Telex and News from around the World give me info and stories I cannot read in any other magazine." Well, that was a long one! As far as the DX Show is concerned we refer to FRS Newscorner in issue 121. Fact is that nowadays quite a number of extracts are played in the programme making it more interesting. The news in the show is carefully selected and a great variety of subjects are handled. That makes that the px is well-listened to. Stefan has got a copy of your letter and will be happy about your comment. Although we partly cover the same news as a few other mags, we are very keen to distinguish ourselves from others with columns such as mentioned by you. But also with our special features, Made in Holland, US and Russian free radio news we clearly differ from other magazines. Thanks Ralf for your criticism & comment. You really took the trouble to send us a real long letter and that's something we do appreciate very, very much!

"I heard about the negative FRS criticism in a Swedish magazine. Wrongly! In my personal view FRS-Holland is a great station and I must say your T-Shirt is wonderful." This letter came from Johan, one of our Dutch readers. Bedankt!

"FRSGDX is very well produced and with the new DIN A4 format, I think, it's the best magazine in the current free radio scene" writes Claude Schmitz from Luxemburg. We are flattered dear Claude.

We leave Luxemburg and travel to Denmark where Bjarke Vestesen is living. "I must tell you that the new format looks very nice, except for the pages 5-7. These pages are too packed and I don't like the landscape format. But nevertheless the new

format is a very fine improvement." Dear Bjarke, we do fully agree with your remark about the pages 5-7 in issue 121.

It was really a kind of temporary measure to make sure all info could be included. But such things will be avoided in future.

Southampton is a beautiful seaport in the South of England. It's also the residence of David Williams who's an absolutely mad SW listener in the positive sense of the word of course! "I was very impressed when I got hold of issue 121. Well, what can I say about the size and format? It's just brilliant. I very much hope you will go from strength to strength with it in the coming months and years ahead. I would like to see a flashback feature on some of the free radio stations that were around in the past on short wave bands which sadly are no longer with us. A clear example was European Music Radio and another name that springs to mind from the old days is Radio Zodiac. Talking about free radio on short wave: I think it's looking very good and in the future I would love to see many more new stations coming on the air with different types of music formats. Lastly: one thing that does make me very angry in the free radio world is some of those people that listen in to free radio every weekend on SW and claim that they are true supporters of the SW scene. But how can they be when most of them are too damn lazy to send in reception reports to these stations. I try to write in as often as I can which I have been doing for many years now without fail. All I can say is I think these people need a good kick up the backside or something like that. So come on you lot, write in, even if it's only now and then." No doubt a very interesting letter. About that SW feature: we'd love to do that but that's only possible with the help of people who used to run these former SW pirates. Or with the help of people who are able to supply us with useful info. In issue 124 we will be publishing a story about some of the 1970's German SW pirates. An exciting feature compiled by our German friend Rainer Palma. We hope to feature as well some of the UK SW pirates from the past future. Thanks a lot for your efforts.

To be continued on page 7

MADE IN HOLLAND

Last time "Made in Holland" was expelled from the "FRS Goes DX" pages due to lack of space. So in this issue a lot of news regarding the Dutch radio landscape.

This time we have got the help of the one and only Herbie the Fish, who contributed the first part of this issue:

A CLOSER LOOK AT DUTCH RADIO

Table: Listening-percentages during February in the Netherlands.

Hour	Radio 3	R.10 Gold	SKY	RTL	Power	538	Holland	Noordzee
07.00	3.6	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
08.00	5.4	1.3	1.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
09.00	7.7	2.0	2.0	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4
10.00	8.4	2.7	2.7	0.9	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4
11.00	7.8	2.9	3.0	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.4
12.00	6.9	2.7	3.0	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.4
13.00	6.5	2.7	2.9	0.8	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4
14.00	6.1	2.7	2.7	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4
15.00	5.8	2.4	2.4	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4
16.00	4.7	1.8	1.8	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
17.00	3.9	1.1	1.4	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
18.00	3.2	0.9	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
19.00	1.1	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.1	0	0
20.00	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
21.00	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
22.00	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.1	0	0	0
23.00	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.1	0	0	0	0.1

One percent means 133,000 listeners of 13 years and older (or 1 percent of the Dutch population of 13 years plus). Holland has approximately 15 million inhabitants.

* Radio 3 is the national public popmusic station, playing a wide variety of commercial, album, oldies, and alternative popmusic (no format at all). All cable networks are ordered by law to relay this station. The station also covers the whole of the country in perfect FM stereo via terrestrial transmitters.

* Radio 10 Gold reaches approximately 2 million people in the northern part of the Netherlands via terrestrial FM stereo frequencies. Also, nearly all cable networks relay the station on FM-cable. The station is reaching therefore approx. 5 million cable-households. The format consists of (rather soft) oldies and gameshows.

* Sky Radio is reaching approx. 2 million people in the southwest of the Netherlands via a terrestrial stereo FM frequency. It also reaches approx. 5 million households connected to cable. The format contains of soft-pop and soft-oldies and is computerized nonstop without any deejays.

* RTL Radio plays rock oriented oldies and album tracks. The station reaches 1.5 million people via a terrestrial FM

frequency in the west of the country, and also some 4 million households via cablesystems.

* Power FM closed down because of the bad ratings, and is now replaced by Love Radio, which is competing directly against Sky Radio. The station had 4 million households via cable and sounded like American college radiostations.

* Radio 538 plays a wide variety of house, hip hop, rock and music from the 60's. That's why they're doing so bad. The station reaches 3 million households via cable only.

* Holland FM is reaching 4 million households via cable only. The station is playing Tom Jones/Engelbert Humperdinck easy listening music mixed with low grade Dutch agricultural music and a LOT of complete unknown songs.

* Radio Noordzee Nationaal is reaching nearly 3 million households. Only via cable. It specializes itself in "Dutch product". The station is mixing up rock, dance pop and low grade Dutch agricultural music (Dutch traditional folkmusic), and adds any song to its playlist as long as there's a Dutch involvement in it.

NOTES:

If a station is reaching 5 million households via cable in the Netherlands, this means that the station only has a potential of 3,5 million households, as only 69 percent of Dutch households with cable TV also have their radio connected to the cable.

Approximately 95 percent of all households in the Netherlands have cable TV and radio. But of all the radiosets in the Netherlands only 1 out of every 5 radios is connected to a cable system. And usually the only place where a radio is connected to a cable system appears to be the living room. This is also the reason that only the radio stations which are targetting housewives do fine. These stations are Radio 10 Gold and Sky Radio. The Netherlands count approximately 12 million radio receivers.

In the autumn of this year, the current commercial stations broadcasting via terrestrial FM transmitters under temporarily measures have to give those frequencies back to the authorities. The stations were given these frequencies after long courtbattles and have been occupying these frequencies since early summer 1992. At that moment, commercial radio via normal terrestrial transmitters hit the Netherlands for the first time, though in small regions only.

In the autumn the radio spectrum will be redivided and also some AM frequencies will be assigned to the commercial stations. Only the AM stations will have the ability to cover the whole of the country, as the FM outlets will remain to be limited. In fact, most of the Netherlands won't be even covered by commercial stations in FM stereo. The only music station that will be covering the whole country will remain pubcaster Radio 3.

So far Herbie's contribution. The next part of Made in Holland fits perfectly to the subject above:

Made in Holland

PUBLIC RADIO: LESS THAN HALF OF THE MARKET SHARE

During the month of March the marketshare of public radio just didn't reach half of the marketshare. Of all listeners in March between 7am and 7pm, 49.7% tuned in to Radio 1,2,3,4 or 5. In February this share still was 52%, in January 53%. In September 1992, just before the re-shuffling of public radio, this marketshare has been 57%.

Regional radio has been a great winner: from 14.8% in February towards 19.2% in March.

Lex Harding's Radio 538 also gained listeners: it climbed from 1.4% to 2.1%. Radio 10 Gold slightly increased its share: from 9.3% to 9.5%, while Sky Radio had to take a step back: from 9.8% to a share of 8.5%. Perhaps the following table will draw a better picture of the situation:

Table: marketshare Dutch radiostations February-March 1993

	February	March
Radio 3	27.0	27.0
Radio 10 Gold	9.3	9.5
Sky Radio	9.8	8.5
Radio 538	1.4	2.1
Holland FM	1.2	1.5
Noordzee Nationaal	1.4	1.3

A giant loser has been Radio 2. Its share dropped from 16% in September last year to 7.8% in March 1993...

RTL RADIO

Last time we mentioned the absence of Bart van Leeuwen as morning deejay on the station, due to a dispute with his employer. Bart wanted to join Radio 538. In the meantime he made a return on RTL Radio during the second week of March. Certainly a gain for the station, 'cause Bart is a well-skilled radioman. So it looks like Rick van Velthuysen will stay on the breakfast show on Radio 538. We hope Erik de Zwart (programme controller) will have a good talk with Rick. His musical choice is much too heavy for the early morning hours. Waking up with a consistent flow of house music isn't preferable.

On RTL a "new" deejay has joined forces: Luc van Rooy, well-known to offshore-fans as Luc Dardin, former Radio Monique deejay. Previously he has been working on public radio (AVRO and VARA) and Radio 10. He had also been offered a job at Radio Veronica when several deejays left the station to join Radio 538.

THE POWER OF LOVE

Monday March 1st satellite radiostation Power FM ceased broadcasts. The station already fired all the deejays some time ago to cut expenses. In recent weeks Power FM had been changing its format slightly towards a more "soft" programming. When the station ended transmissions it was replaced by LOVE RADIO. This station, also working without deejays, only broadcasts soft pop, reminding of the early days of Sky Radio. Radio 10, the owner of the station, hopes to attract a broader audience with

the new name and format.

"SILENCE" ON 675

Sunday February 14th at midnight the national popstation (?), calling itself "Holland's youngest station", left its 675 kHz outlet. That is according to an European guideline, that the same programme may not be broadcasted on FM and AM simultaneously. From February 15th onwards an announcement could be heard attending the listeners at the FM frequencies of Radio 3. In my opinion this announcement was of a very high quality. It offered good listening pleasure! Quite cynical one of the best productions ever to be heard on Radio 3 regarded its departure from AM... At this very moment a more "neutral" looptape can be heard, informing the audience of the forthcoming assignment of the frequency to a commercial broadcaster "later this year". This brings us to the following item:

RADIO 1 STILL ON 747

As we mentioned earlier also Radio 1 had to leave its mediumwave frequency. When the public became aware of this a lot of protests erupted. In particular truckdrivers argued they wouldn't be able to receive the news-station abroad anymore.

Radio 538 jumped into this discussion offering full programming for 747 kHz, consisting of music, news and traffic reports. There never came an official reaction towards this proposal.

Wednesday March 17th Dutch parliament discussed this issue. The result: Radio will stay on 747 kHz for the time being. A decision on the subject of "divorcing" the AM and FM outlets will be made after a committee has been studying the subject. The nomination of a committee is a "famous" way of getting rid of difficult subjects in Dutch politics. This committee will concentrate on the subject of European legislation.

By the way: Secreatry d'Ancona favours the disconnection of the outlets, but she couldn't convince the parliament. A majority of members of Parliament was very impressed by the protest of the truckers, who offered a petition, signed by 10,000 people.

The liberal party stated the Government has to offer an extra FM transmitter to the commercial broadcasters in case Radio 1 stays on 747. D'Ancona wants to allocate two AM and two FM frequencies to commercial stations.

In the meantime some sources state commercial stations have supported the truckers, because they hope to get an additional FM frequency this way. □

Edition 122 contained an advert for a brandnew book relating to the exiting hobby of SW : Shortwave Radio Listening for Beginners. The book is written by Anita Louise McGormick who's already working on a new book. Unfortunately the European addresse for ordering the book wasn't mentioned. Therefore we now publish the correct European address:

Europe: McGraw-Hill Book Company Europe/Shoppenhangers Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 2QL in England.

ARTIOM REPORTS....

Hi from Moscow again and this time I'm 'driving' on the pages of FRSGDX with another badge of information about the Russian pirate radio scene! There is good news and bad news... Well, let's begin...

Firstly we take a look at the first Russian pirate radio station...Radio Without Borders Int. indeed. During April RWBI aired a good number of commemorative programmes to celebrate its second anniversary. We heard a pre-recorded 60 minute tape covering the station's history, also some nostalgic conversations (Igor & myself) where we recalled how everything had begun. By the way, nowadays 90% of Igor's RWBI broadcasts are live. Unfortunately there is no possibility to broadcast phone-ins, but no doubt this will be achieved sometime in the future!

So every Birthday Party means there are some gifts. And there were not missing. A crazy audio present came from Romantic Space Radio. This romantic 'spacyfaste'd' station suddenly appeared via RWBI with a heavy metal format called the 'Rock Shock Show'. This shock lasted some 40 minutes and impressed a number of Russian listeners being seriously interested in heavy metal. Another good gift for the party were a few taped reports which came from different parts of Russia and one from our Swedish friend Stefan Printz. Thanks a lot! We were very glad to have the possibility to listen to our own station in the way listeners usually do! Besides those nice presents RWBI also got some news making us troubled. A first one came from the person who is connected with the Radio Control Inspection. It was said that RWBI's 76 mb signal was picked up at the monitoring post of this punitive organisation (no one must forget Radio Nolan's latest experience). Well, to prevent a raid Igor decided to move back to 48 metres (another reason is that 48 is a good choice for the upcoming summertime, isn't it?!) and as soon as the 48 mb aerial is being erected, RWBI will leave 76 metres. But it doesn't mean RWBI will leave 76 metres for ever. It's possible that in future 76 metres will be used for local programming. You must know Igor bought a broken military SSB rig covering the 1-11 MHz range. If

this unit is repaired, then this project will be realized. It may also happen you'll find RWBI on 48 in parallel with 76 metres.

Let's go back to the anniversary gifts. Another one was....Radio 75. But this time a bad one. If you look through some of the pirate loggings, you must be easily finding out what's the matter. For example take a look on page 7 of issue 122 of FRSGDX. The log from Sun March 21st shows us that RWBI and Radio 75 broadcasted at the very same time and on the very same frequency. Well, the reason is that Mike "Commander of Armoured train from Wrecked Submarine in Laptev's Sea" premeditatedly jammed RWBI. He went on the very same spot on the dial with his broadcasting service, but he also used a special jamming machine called "Radiowar" (it is a tiny analogue of those powerhouses being used by Soviet government for jamming VOA, BBC etc. in the years behind us. This hell machine produces a FM signal on SW and because of that it makes a quite strong QRM, even despite the little power. So, things go in this way and what is the hidden motive of this Radio 75 action? On this point Igor got the answer from Mike (by radio during their abusive QSO), that the latter (Mike) feels bad, if he wouldn't produce interferences to RWBI. Quite a good explanation, hi! And here's the third reason for RWBI to move to 48 metres. Maybe Mike will leave RWBI here alone? Let's hope. However, it's very sad to know that among all the stations we have friendly ties with, there's now a station like Radio 75. The SW spectrum is rather wide and it's truly mean to jam someone who is a colleague SW hobby pirate station, in fact someone who's on the same 'wavelength' (as far as the hobby is concerned). Moreover: one weekend Radio 75 was picked up jamming WMR and Wave Radio Int. What a son of a bitch! Well, I'm getting calmer now and going to observe the latest events on the Russian free radio scene...

GMRI. As for this station I can say it's a relatively new station. Green Music Radio Int. is permanently heard on 3020 kHz (broadcasting every weekend night from about 22.00 UTC onwards). According to the listeners' reports, GMRI's signal strength is lower in compare with RWBI

(despite GMRI's output is twice as much as that of RWBI). The coverage in Russia is, as far as we know, similar to that of RWBI. With regard to the relatively weak signal, it is rumoured that GMRI's aerial isn't properly connected to the transmitter. That could be a very suitable reason. Not too long ago I had a telephone conversation with the GMRI OP and here's some first of hand info. Nowadays the station produces mostly live programming in Russian including different type of music and observations from Russian DX press. Among some special features "Molotok" (The Hammer) has to be mentioned. This show consists of a rock music format. GMRI has not a special studio for recording pxs. The mike is connected with the tx via the tape recorder's amplifier. That very same recorder is used for playing music. All in all the OP is very optimistic and I think that's the most needed thing for future developments.

Romantic Space Radio continues to carry out experiments on SW. Apart from the already mentioned "Rock Shock", RSR presented a prerecorded 90 minute DX-Show consisting of more than an hour of chat and only some 20 minutes of music. That show contained info about numerous legal and illegal radio stations. The worst thing for our foreign audience was all was done in Russian. If you once again take a look in the FRS Logbook in FRSGDX 122, you will see that RSR was relayed on 3910 March 21st. This frequency could be easily emanating from RSR's permanent relaying station RWBI but this time the signal came from the UK. LWR rebroadcasted this show which took to the air one year earlier (March 29th 1992) via WMR. I heard the show myself and can reveal that the quality was O=4. As far as I know our Scandinavian colleagues heard this programme as well with quite a good signal. There was a funny incident at the end of the relay. When 3910 was clear, I suddenly got Wave Radio Int. calling for RSR. The WRI OP invited RSR for a qso and was well heard here in Moscow. But unfortunately the WRI OP can only get an answer by letter, because RSR was only relayed. And that concludes my contribution for this time. Yours in free radio....Artiom

Joop Ter Zee's ALTERNATIVE (fucking) THOUGHTS

Ere we go with this brand new LAY OUT ** After some talks on *high FRSH level* the editor and I decided that TWO columns are enough for this piece ** Your eyes don't have to shoot to the right and left so much Ya dig ?? ** Because your head is *already dazzled* with this highly sophisticated non freaky FRSH crap ** After some absence from the scene I made myself a *good voornemen* to do this one every issue ** So I won't have to start with an excuse every time ** That's for other people ** See the beginning ? It's in real *radio style* like the tape wasn't quod correctly ** Something that happens all the time folks !! ** Now for some NEWS about *me*:

Joop ter Zee Newscorner

I'm thinking about a new mixer (the hart of the studio) ** There is a *Dutch* firm who has made a *table* for FREAKY productions ** Check this out (as a reader): It has 8 stereo channels and every channel has *three* (3) possibilities: Line-Pick-up(?)-Mic ** Perfect for production and high-energy & profile shows ** Keep you informed ** End of Newscorner * Seems in June we'll ave a full scheduled oadcast again ** Ead more about it in this agazine ** Of course (as it goes in the world of free adio; copy, copy, copy) this isn't my joke ** If you see any adds for professional Sony equipment: The eal end of the rop outs ** I don't see them put such an add in the Margriet ** "Margriet" is a womens mag in Holland ** Features great stuff like: Doe meer met je oude knopen (Make more of your old buttons) ** This brings me to a *special* I'm about to do on our *broke* local FM station ** A '30' special !! ** Two shows of special intrest stuff, only for people from ≥ 30 ** That'll make them ☺ ** We are going to give some tips about how to do the paintwork, do the garden and 'how to revive your relation when the futere dries up' ** ☹ ** The 30's will never be the same ** I gues that'll be my last show ** During *years gone by* it was a *routine* to get thrown out, these last years it just doesn't work that way anymore *** As I told earlier it's *high time* I get moving from this local scene ** The medium - wave section in our last mag got my attention ** Maybe for something completely different ?? ** With my, for this occasion being,

30-special *partner in radio* I had a discussion (like in the 70's) about Radio 538 ** You know all about hem, after our last special on 538 ** With their 3 million connections ** We decided to call it: 538, *neither flesh nor fish* ** It's realy quite pathetic Harding produces on 'his' station ** First, the name * Who the fuck of his *target audience* gets the name ?? ** As I said earlier: copy - copy -copy: Goud waar je van houdt ** Strange why a 'vet' like Harding doesn't get the message that kiddies Radio doesn't work on cable ** And his goal, a bit like Hilversum-Radio ** You know, thats real Dutch Calvinism: You *pretend* to serve an audience but in fact you are into making money ** You just can't say it straight away * Right ** I a week time I'm going on a DX - CAMP (CAMPement) ** The time has come again to do some g.o. DX-ing around the (fucking) med. ** I never thought I'd like it, but last year I sat around the f. pool with my longwire ** It's a special travel-longwire; you can wind it in a little box ** Of course it isn't, you get it with every Sony s.w. receiver, but you know how it goes.. ** Well, now some inside stuff ** Like INSIDE EDITION on Super *** A few days ago I bought myself a DAT recorder ** Very nice piece of machinery ** After listening to good-old-Philips-making-profit-again-but-nevertheless-going-to-another-mistake-after-video2000-but-then-again-I-wouldn't-buy-even-a-mixer-or-an-electric-toothbrush-from-them-

P H I L I P S DCC recorder and the MINIDISC I had to say there is only one that beats them all ** Now I can master my g.o. crap on DAT-tape ** Of course, we as radio-makers need some sophisticated EXTRA's on a DAT ** Things you won't need if you just want to copy Dire Straits CD's ** I can programm up to 60 jingles & tunes on dat machine ** You just hit the right track and within 1 min. 'He' cues it up ** And when you think He didn't record the start ID (automaticly) right you can adjust the ID with 0.3 secs minimum ** Very nice isn't it ?? ** Like a kind'a toy for the elderly ** Now I must be moving on ** The manager has left me with some things to do, you know promos and stuff ** But you DID already know: the Free Radio-Scene is like a *huishouden*: There is always work to do ** See ya all in too mons ** If you're leaving the coming weeks for some days of, have fun ** ☐

73's Joop ter Zee
And all that stuff
man man man



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